



May 7, 2018

The wait is over. The bishop's cabinet has notified us of the appointment of our new pastor. The SPRC committee was introduced to Reverend Steve Hubbell and his wife, Annette at an introductory meeting on Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. This past Sunday, the announcement was shared in Sunday worship. Erin Schildroth shared a letter from our new pastor. We are excited to share this letter with you as we go through this transition in our church leadership.

*Brothers and Sisters at Reinbeck United Methodist Church,*

*I cannot fully express how excited we are about our upcoming move to Reinbeck. Earlier this week, I, along with my wife, Annette, met with your Staff Parish Relations Committee and District Superintendent, Rev. Heecheon Jeon (filling in for Rev. Jackie Bradford). We had a wonderful meeting and I truly sensed the Spirit of God at work in our midst.*

*I am a second-career pastor. I graduated with a Master of Divinity Degree in 2007 and a Doctor of Ministry Degree in 2014. Prior to my call into the ministry, I was a computer programmer.*

*Annette is a registered nurse. She has spent time working in hospitals, but her passion is teaching. Prior to our marriage, she was a tenured professor at Illinois Central College in East Peoria, Illinois. Since moving to Iowa, she has worked in hospitals and as an adjunct professor at Kirkwood Community College. Additionally, she is a PhD candidate at Illinois State University.*

*Together we have a total of 7 children. Most of them are grown and on their own. The two youngest are Paul (13) and Rachel (12). Rachel will be making the move to Reinbeck with us.*

*We feel truly blessed to be called to serve among you. Please be in prayer for the transitions that are now on our collective horizon. Pastoral transitions usually bring a strange mix of both excitement and anxiety for all. I am certainly excited about the prospect of becoming your pastor, but I also know that I have some big shoes to fill as well. Likewise, some of you will be excited about the prospect of getting to know your next pastor, yet, at the very same time, you are already beginning to grow anxious as you think about Rev. Plocher and his wife, Robyn, departing for their next adventure. So, please, keep our upcoming transitions in prayer.*

*In Christian Love and Affection,*

*Rev. Steve Hubbell, DMin*

We will be learning more about move dates for Pastor Terry and Robyn, as well as Pastor Steve and Annette in the near future. We will also be planning our farewell and our welcome events. More information will be shared as those plans are finalized. As always, we welcome your questions or concerns at any time.

From your SPRC Committee

Deb Oleson, Kaye Koch, Cliff Moye, Mark Schildroth, Jim Smoldt, Beth Thompson and Erin Schildroth