

JUNE 2018 HARBINGER

Following Jesus - a life "on the Move"

Famed scholar and pastor Eugene Peterson once said: "It is key to remember that following Jesus is a lifestyle 'on the move'. We don't stop to admire what we've accomplished. That statement resonates with me more than ever as I get ready to once again be 'on the move' for Jesus and relocate to Fort Wayne.

As an ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church, I am itinerant. Meaning that I have agreed to be available to go anywhere the Bishop and his cabinet deem a good fit and of benefit to the church connection at large. Being part of this system takes a great deal of trust in leadership, but especially in God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

And I hope by now you know my heart and that I want to be obedient to God and His calling for me. Just like I was in waiting for God and His timing with Emma. I have learned that there are many times in our lives when God calls us to go somewhere or do something, and sometimes He wants us to step out in faith in a situation that seems extremely ridiculous so He can amaze us with what He does. That is what this next assignment will be for me in going to Fort Wayne to Covenant UMC and planting a movement for Jesus by starting a new church. I have learned we can miss out on exciting opportunities like these if we are unwilling to move – or let Him move through us. And when God asks us to move, He never asks us to go alone. So know that as we move on, we will be taking each one of you with us in our hearts.

I am excited to think of the possibilities that come with where I am heading. And I am excited God chose me to try this for Him! As you can imagine, this is going to be a lot of hard work, lots of learning, and lots of leaning on God.

While I am excited, my heart aches to be leaving you who I love so much! I want to thank you all for your support, kindness, and prayers over the last five years, and the community that you provided for me.

I ask that you pray during this time of transition for me, Rob, Emma, and Connor as we launch into this new beginning.

We will be moving June 19 and your new incoming pastor will begin July 1. In the in-between, Assistant DS Mick Miller will be handling pastoral emergencies.

My friends, it has been my honor to serve as your pastor.

Thank you for the time we have had together.

Pastor Kara

Pastor Gwen Pew's first Sunday to preach will be Sunday, July 1st. Please be here to welcome her.



5th Gus Harmeyer
Trisha Austerman
7th Donna Miller
12th Jerry Dickerson
16th Daniel Haffner
24th Les Miller
25th Ron Zimmerman
26th Ada Reeve
29th Duane Brandenburg



For our 3% Mission of the Month for June – we are proud to support our own Mission Mart, which assists the needy with rent and utilities.

Just a little humor

An angry worker goes into her company’s payroll office to complain that her paycheck is \$50 short.

The payroll supervisor checks the books and says, “I see here that last week you were overpaid by \$50. I can’t recall your complaining about that.”

“Well, I’m willing to overlook an occasional error, but this is two in a row.”



Mark your calendars for the Men's Golf Outing on June 22-24.
If you have any questions, contact Roger Mapes at rmapes@comcast.net



June 16 - Farewell open house for Pastor Kara, Rob, and Emma in the Fellowship Hall from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Please come to say goodbye and wish them well in their new venture.

Thank You

Grand Avenue Church Family,

Thank you so much for the lovely graduation luncheon, the cards, and gift. But most of all, for your well wishes and kind words.

“I thank my God in all my remembrance of you.” Philippians 1:3

Cindy Newton

Thank you all for the graduation wishes and for all of the prayers and support over the years. God bless you all! William Austerman

