

Spring Lake Presbyterian Church

Moderator:

2004 Annual Report

I would like to thank all members and friends of Spring Lake Presbyterian Church for your open arms in welcoming me this year as your pastor. I feel blessed to be in such a warm and caring place where the call of God is both realized and acted upon by all who enter these doors. Thank you for your openness to new ideas, allowing God's Spirit to be alive and active in 2004.

The year 2004 allowed me plenty of opportunities for doing my job as Pastor. As we worked through the liturgical year, we embraced the hope of resurrection, discovered more of Jesus' examples for our lives through his teachers, uncovered opportunities in our midst, and listened to the voices of God's people from the past, giving testimony to God among them, just as God dwells among us today. In December we had the opportunity to wait with hope, joy, love, and peace for the promise of God's presence among us, as we whispered "Merry Christmas" to each other at the candlelight service of December 24, 2004, we realized that the Messiah had been born among us, bringing the light of God's love to our world.

I was honored to celebrate the sacraments of the Lord's Supper with you throughout the year. I enjoy listening to the whispers of "the body of Christ broken for you" and "the cup of salvation given for you" as you served one another the elements, realizing God with us in the memory of Jesus.

Baptizing Alexander Pierrelouis was the highlight of 2004 for me. What a joy it was to participate in the sacrament wherein the call of God was realized by Alexander's parents and by the Spring Lake congregation. Our duty remains to see that he is raised and nurtured in the love and admonition of God in Christ, that he too can realize God's call on his life as he grows up.

It was difficult losing members of our congregation this year to death. Yet I was honored to lead the celebration of hope in the resurrection as we recalled the lives of Ken Ketchum, Lynn Smith, and Carl Baughman. As we remember their lives that we

too can live in a way that recognizes God to our world and acts in a way that others may recognizes the same God.

In my time with you, I was honored to receive with you Bill & Marge Montag, Walt & Betty Diddle, John & Wanda Bender, Don & June Fogle, Carine Cantave & Jean Pierrelouis, and Ken Glaeser into our fellowship. Continue to offer care and love to our newest members, while bringing in others so that they too may worship God with us. The Bible instructs us, "Go therefore into the world and preach the gospel, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to observe all that God has commanded. For God is with us through the end of the age."

I am looking forward to working with you in the coming years and pray that together we will choose to follow God's leading for the Spring Lake Presbyterian Church into the future, wherever and however God will ask us to minister. Let us join together to bring about God's kingdom in our world.

Peace,
Pastor Katie Treadway