

FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART

Joy, relief, pride. Not all Fruit of the Spirit, but some of the feelings associated with AP's response to the need for greater giving so we can continue the great work Bobbi Ehrgood and her Christian Ed team is doing with our children. If you missed it, last week Jeff Johnson announced on behalf of the Finance and Stewardship teams that we will be able to continue funding the half time position of Director of Christian Education. Thanks be to God, to our entire church leadership and to all of you who made this possible.

A congregation's vision drives its mission and ministry. Vision must be monitored, renegotiated and renewed over the years or a congregation drifts toward other visions, usually unconscious and unexpressed. Our church's task over the next several months is two-fold: 1) continue to improve our operational procedures and communication so we reduce the "Aggravation Tax" and make APUMC a more effective and positive culture to be in, and 2) redefine our vision to be the church the Holy Spirit wants for this time and place. This should be an interesting and exciting time to be APUMC because we are the ones who will lay the foundation for the next 40-50 year congregational lifecycle or manifestation of APUMC.

To wit, I offer an article by Melvin Anderson on page 6, of The Evangel dated February 10, 2010, a UMC stewardship consultant from Texas.

See you in church, APUMC!

Pastor Carl