Goodbyes and Welcomes

Life is a journey of welcomes and goodbyes. On June 30th the church will say goodbye to Pastor Amos Oladipo and family after their three years of ministry at Faith and welcome the new Pastor Ayla Samson and family on July 1st for the beginning of their ministry at Faith! How time flies! The cycle of life is very significant in Methodist’s itinerary system. The little child is welcome to the world with joyful hearts and the child will live his/her life to the “fullest” before he/she departs from this world. Even with the departure of this person, the world continues to be in extent and life goes on. The most important thing in life is what is in between the time of birth to the time of departure because here lies the legacy by which the family/society that is left behind will continue to remember of the person. Moreover, it is equally important to remember that there are many “helpers” along the way of life for success or failure!

It is on this note that I want to thank the church for their support in these three years. I am sure we had time of adjusting to each other, but the best part is that in spite of the differences, we were able to work together for the common goal of spreading the love of God! I have listened to your amazing stories, stories of hope, of perseverance, of answered prayer, of faith in the midst of unanswered prayer, of living out what we believe by helping others. I’ve heard you tell them during testimonies or during the sharing of joys and concerns before our prayer. Your stories are inspiring and moving and an incredible testimony to the work of God in this world. So I want to encourage you today to keep telling that story of God’s love! You have impacted my life in many areas and I can say also that God has touched many lives through our ministry here.

As announced on May 14, 2017, Pastor Ayla Samson will be the next Pastor as from July 1st. Pastor Ayla has been in ministry for a while and possesses the gifts and graces that Faith needs to continue the ministry! Please welcome her with open hands and support her fresh ideas that will aid the growth of the church.

As this chapter comes to an end. I have had several people say, “I’m not going to say ‘goodbye’ because that just sounds so final.” Yes, it does and yes, it is. But not when you consider what it really means. The word “goodbye” is a contracted form of the phrase, “God be with ye.” To say “goodbye” is to entrust someone to God’s care once they are no longer in your presence such as Spanish word “Adios,” which literally means, “to God,” and French word “Adieu.” To God.

As the adage says: “We meet to part and part to meet.” I am sure we will continue to see each other in many areas as long as we are United Methodists because of our connection!

Till then, continue to love and care for each other and work as a team to fulfill the great commission of transformation of the world!

Your friend and Pastor Amos Oladipo