

Oh, holy fishes! How were you caught?

19 years ago, I took on the most important job I will probably ever have—to lead my children to Jesus and give them back to God. With God’s help, Brant and I were led to the Salem community through Salem School and here have found the Holy Spirit powerfully working within the church’s many ministries.

As we say our goodbyes to **Jerry, Joy, Zoë and Liberty Watts**, I am keenly aware of the influence Jerry has had on the children and youth of Salem and on my family these last 10 years. What a great mentor and friend he has been - and what a good fisherman! The nurturing conversations, the crazy and wonderful gatherings and traditions, the devotions following every gathering, and the many foot washing projects - **the four keys to passing on the faith**. We see the glow of maturing Christians shining from the eyes of our youth as they forge their futures.

During this time of change, let me assure you that as a church we are committed to continue this rich **faith formation** and are taking steps to insure a continuity of spiritual leadership to our youth and families. We are planning to hire an **interim youth minister** to assist us with our retreats, summer trips, and H³ allowing us the time to carefully evaluate Salem's needs and find the right individual to help support our ministries. We are also working to cover the myriad of administrative details and thank those of you who are stepping up to become even more involved. It is our goal to have both of those duties staffed and ready to go by the first winter retreat at the end of January.

As we turn the page over to a new year, I am grateful to God for the opportunity to work and worship with such a devoted congregation and am confident that He will continue to use our lives to lead another generation to the Fisherman’s net.

In His service,

Regina Reed
Children, Youth & Family Steward