



Central Congregational United Church of Christ

Dear Church,

It has been almost three years since I became your Senior Minister, and I am grateful that you asked me to join you in ministry. When I was searching for a congregation, I made a commitment to myself that I would only accept a call to a progressive congregation that was Open and Affirming and had a strong commitment to social justice. I also was looking for a congregation that honored diversity of thought and believed in freedom of the pulpit. Of course, this also meant that I believed in freedom of the pew! At Central, we believe that each person has the right and obligation to carve out their beliefs in the context of a community of faith. As you probably sense from all this, I am proud of you!

Having said this, I have made the decision to move back to Kentucky. Due to my recent diagnosis of Parkinson's disease, I feel the need to be closer to my daughters, and they concur. Given the kind of congregation that you are and my love for you, this has been a difficult decision. Our Articles of Operation indicate that the Senior Minister is to give three-month notice of their resignation. This means that my last day with you will be Thursday, November 30.

I am confident that you will continue the wonderful ministry that you provide. Central is a multi-gifted congregation. I also know that Central will continue to thrive because of the dedicated staff. It has been a joy to work with them. They make Central a better congregation than it would be otherwise. Thanks to Thomas Mitchell, Associate Minister; Elena Zaharia, Administrative Coordinator; Berthe Megie, Plymouth Harbor Director; Jana Uzel, Plymouth Harbor Assistant; and Todd Mason, Facilities Coordinator. We recently hired Josh Zilberman as Central's Music Director. The Search Committee and I are confident that Josh will provide excellent oversight and direction of Central's music ministry.

Last, I borrow the words of the apostle Paul: "I will continue to thank God every time I mention you in my prayers."

With deep appreciation,
Rev. Dr. Scott K. Cox