Those of you who were able to attend our Annual Meeting on Sunday witnessed the power of our community in action. I hope that you were able to access and read the reports from our committee heads that chronicle all that these fine church leaders have been doing throughout the year - much of which goes on behind the scenes. We owe them a debt of gratitude!

In addition to the extensive reports, there were several highlights from Sunday's meeting:

1. The Nominating Committee worked hard to recruit volunteers to help us hold together the efforts of the church. I would like to thank the following people for agreeing to serve on a variety of committees:

Julie Barbato (Religious Ed) Carr Ferguson (Trustees) Becky Belcher (2nd term on Ushers) Tony Good (Deacons) Theresa Carroll (2nd term, Deacons) Allison Gray (Ushers) Lee Collins (Trustees) Peggy Hayes (2nd term, Music) Roger Crain (2nd term, Trustees) Gordon Johnson (Ushers) Emily Elliot (2nd term, Music) Don Mayland (Deacons) John Estabrook (specially approved Charlie Noyes (Church Council at additional year on Deacons) Large) Jano Fairservis (advisory for Janet Offensend (Treasurer) Religious Ed) Joanne Taber (2nd term, Ushers)

2. As we welcome them, we thank the people who have completed their terms on their respective committees:

Ken Edholm - Trustees / Ushers

Lorna Edmundson - Deacons

Linda Estabrook - Religious Ed

Jenn Oberto - Deacons

Jennifer Good - Religious Ed

Janet Kaufman - Council At-Large

Kathy Mera - Deacons

Deborah Moore - Deacons

Jenn Oberto - Deacons

Laura O'Niel (ushers)

Jennifer Weigel - Treasurer

3. The Strategic Visioning Team (Emily Elliiot, Bob Maxwell, Charlie Noyes, Janet Offensend) presented their recommendation for our church's mission statement and the accompanying vision statement that elaborates more of the vision of all that we are and will be in the coming years. Living into the mission, "Meeting in Grace, Transformed by Love, Serving with Joy," will be the job of each of us and all of us as we continue to nurture our faith and our commitment to one another. Guided by our visioning coach, Paul Nickerson, this team of people, in addition to Pastor John and me, has been

meeting regularly over the past year, reviewing the information from the Holy Cow Survey, conducting interviews of leaders from the Lakeville/Salisbury community, and listening to you in small group discussions and in your responses to several questions earlier in the year. They continue to inspire us and to fill us with hope and a road map for all that lies ahead.

We truly have much to be thankful for. With the able, compassionate, and experienced leadership of Pastor John Nelson, the experienced and joyful musical direction of David Baranowski, the enthusiasm of our Religious Education Director Holly Tierney, and the support of staff members Loriann Chevremont and Rich Tietjen, we stand on a firm platform from which to launch our continued faith journey. It is an honor to serve as the Moderator of this congregation, and I look forward to all that lies ahead as we walk our path together.

Gratefully, Betsy Beck Moderator