

Dear HIP Church,

February promises to be a month of transition. Hopefully, it will also be a month of transformation.

The choir is beginning to rehearse again. We will meet at 5:30 PM on Wednesday evenings this month. Meanwhile, Louis Menendez will begin easing back into his role as music director.

We are grateful for Danna Hearn's service. We will miss having her at church. I hope and pray that she will visit, for the Holiday Island Presbyterian Church family is an inclusive and ever-expanding family. It's difficult to come in contact with us and not feel connected to the congregation, and this is only one of the many things that we have going for us.

Lent will begin the first Wednesday in March. So, the coming month will be about building bridges from the season of light with which the calendar year begins to Transfiguration Sunday when we will celebrate the assurance that the right kinds of changes are eventually coming.

Go ahead and plan on attending an Ash Wednesday service when Lent officially starts, participating in a sermon "talk back" series after worship on Sundays during Lent and observing Holy Week, which will include a Maundy Thursday service. Ideally, there will be a cantata in there somewhere. So many good things are happening at church. I give thanks that God has called me to serve as your pastor. Remember that you can always text or call (276-477-0000) if you'd like to chat.

Blessings, Ron