

Pastor's Annual Report

It feels like a long time ago when four of us, Heather, Lorraine, Godfrey and myself were in the Sanctuary on a Sunday morning doing worship for a congregation who were all gathered virtually online. That being said, the journey continues and we have not arrived. We are back, but not fully. We are recovering, but not recovered. We are on our way, but truth be told, we are not sure what it will look like when we arrive. What seems true is that we will not return to where we were, but we are journeying to somewhere new.

The year 2022 will be remembered for the completion of our building campaign having finished the tower renovation. It will be remembered for our restarting our ASP summer mission program, hiring a new wonderful music director, and hopefully the year that started a new chapter of growth and service in the life of Freedom Plains United. I will remember 2022 as the year Ed Joba died, perhaps the last World War Two veteran I will ever eulogize. Time does move on.

What do you think we will remember 2023 for? What does God have in store for us? What opportunities will we seize and what opportunities will we miss while seeking to be faithful to our risen Lord? I hope you are filled with great optimism, hopeful expectations, and a deep belief that God is not done with you or us yet. I for one am convinced that we have some amazing opportunities, and of course some profound challenges in a society that is changing quickly.

As we start out 2023 I would ask you to pray for our congregation. Pray that we might seize those God given opportunities to serve, learn, grow, and tell the story of our loving God in new and old ways that connect an eternal God to this present time and place.

Yours in Christ,

Paul