



Discover Joy Church Mastersonville, PA

www.discoverjoychurch.org

Pastoral update 11/15/09

We have now completed ten months of service here at Discover Joy. As most of you know due to the consideration in closing the church last fall (2008) we were initially assigned to a one year period so the Bishop could determine what course to take for the church in the fall of 2009. After observing the church through most of 2009 he has determined to keep the church open and has assigned me to continue to serve.

What this means:

- 1) In my view the uncertainty regarding whether or not the church would remain open was a detriment to the stability this church very much needed (although I understand his reasoning at the time.)
- 2) We feel the removal of the one year probation will mean that those observing our church and perhaps those who've considering attending may be more inclined to try us out.
- 3) Brooksye and I essentially serve together in all aspects of ministry and thus our family income is entirely derived from some form of ministry; our part-time compensation from the church, our chaplain ministry and offerings to our daily encouragement ministry. In other words we will continue to serve as "part-time" as far as status but we must also keep up the other forms of service. However we do put our hearts into this work and there is a sense that other aspects of our ministry dovetail, such a preparations for teachings here at the church and perhaps in chaplain Bible studies and daily encouragement messages or visitation.
- 4) Quite candidly there may be some who were staying with the church through the probation period in a sense of duty till it closed, but may choose to move on now that the status has changed and it has been determined that the church will remain open. We always regret losing people but also realize there may be different ministry interests people have.

Those attending regularly have had almost a year to observe our ministry style and focus. What you see is pretty much what you can expect! We want to thank all who have been faithful in financially supporting the church and are pleased to report a projection that we will meet the budgeted income for 2009 established by the Bishop. We know some of our folks are unemployed or others have faced cutbacks in their income. May the Lord give all a deep sense of assurance of His faithfulness!

I will be writing or otherwise contacting those who are in some type of active Christian service here at Discover Joy and check to see that they desire to continue in their role. We can also affirm or clarify the responsibilities expected based upon the job descriptions we developed several months ago.

A reminder that we are always available to discuss matters concerning the church or seek to answer any questions you may have. Please give me a call or send an email or letter. Generally before or after church services is a difficult time for this. Prior to a service we really focus on preparation and following a service we want to visit informally with as many as we can.

I am also developing a list of "Frequently Asked Questions" although in most cases they have not been asked but realize that perhaps are something people wonder about. If you have questions please submit them and I can either address them directly to you and/or as part of this "Frequently Asked Questions" list (if it's in the list it will be addressed anonymously). You can email your questions [here](#).

I joyfully serve Jesus Christ and His body,

Pastor Stephen Weber