

The Kenilworth Union Church

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Dear Friends,

Sometimes, moving into God's future requires a shift in plans. I first came to really learn this as I chose to leave the world of advertising and enter the ministry. I have continued to learn this in the two churches I have served over the last fourteen years. Now the time has come for me to again move into a new future.

This July will mark my sixth year of ministry at Kenilworth Union Church. It has been a fulfilling time for me. I have come to love the people, the staff, the worship life and the work of this church.

Paraphrasing something I said in a recent sermon, "I'm very glad to have been a part of a church that blesses so many within and without its walls."

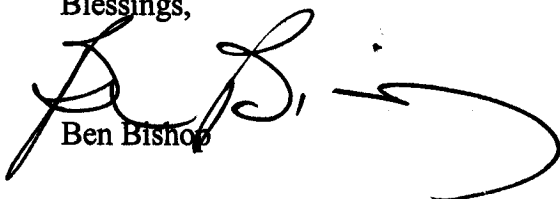
It is now time for me to say goodbye. To be honest, it is difficult. However the truth is, saying goodbye is something I have always known I would have to do one day. My call to KUC as your Executive Minister was to bridge the transition from Gil's retirement through the search for a new Senior Minister. Now that Andrew has been here six months, that work has been accomplished.

More than anything else I want to say *thank you*. Thank you for welcoming Sue and me into the community. Thank you for supporting my ministry in so many ways, and for making me a better minister. Thank you for sharing your tears and your laughter as you invited me to be a part of meaningful events in your lives. Also, I owe a big thank you to the staff I have worked beside these last years - they have done so much to build upon and sustain the strengths of Kenilworth Union.

Trusting in God's leading, I expect to continue my ministry. Where? How? I can't really say yet. But I look forward to the next chapter. I will begin my search immediately and complete my call at KUC by the middle of July.

I have been blessed to be your minister for a special season. My prayer as I leave is that KUC will continue in its future to be a vital, vibrant faith community that follows in God's way of love, peace and justice.

Blessings,


Ben Bishop