

## Monday - March 17

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Colossians 3:16 (ESV)*

Spoken and unspoken, intentional and unintentional, faith leaders minister to all of us within our church family. It has been this way at PUMC for 200 years! I am a life-long Methodist, and in my formative years I would only have counted the clergy as my ministers. It didn't take long as a young adult in the church to realize that ministry is all around us!

Think of some of your early memories in our PUMC community. What do you recall? I see smiling faces! I hear upbeat voices and genuine laughter! I feel firm handshakes and supportive hugs! From our Missions team and Stephen Ministers, and on down to the first-time visitor on Sunday morning, we strive to "teach and admonish one another in all wisdom" as Paul has asked us to do. In times of great joy or profound sadness, we can find strength and empathy in our church flock.

Our Shepherd protects us along the way as we work to emulate His goodness especially for the troubled and vulnerable among us. Count me as a member of that flock who never stops learning how to give and receive that selfless, Christian love. "Love Divine. All Loves Excelling, Joy of Heav'n, to earth come down"

Todd Hardesty

**Prayer:** Thank you, Lord, for all who minister in our church community. Thank you for our rich history filled with the Holy Spirit working through our ancestors. May that same energy abide with us at this time and for all time. Amen.