

Dear friends and colleagues,

As you know, the last year has brought so many new and exciting things to our synod by way of Community of Good Neighbors. May 1st 2020 began an exploration on the East Side that then weaved and grew into a mobile food pantry, worshipping community, and gospel centered anti-racism.

This last year has also caused us all to be careful in our discernment, and it is in that spirit that I would like to announce this next phase of ministry for myself and CGN. On Sunday April 18th the beloved community of faith at Good Shepherd in Tonawanda called me as their next Pastor. With this new shift also comes new (yet not so new) leadership for Community of Good Neighbors. My dear friend and fellow troublemaker, The Rev. Kwame Pitts, will be the new pastor for CGN!

In a trinity of exciting ministry, she will lead Campus Ministry, Community of Good Neighbors, and Oasis Community. It is with so much gratitude that I can serve alongside the folks at Good Shepherd while leaving CGN in the capable hands of Pastor Kwame, and also you- the supporters of this ministry. I am so thankful for all the support for this blooming community and look forward to the ways that our synod will continue to love and support one of its newest worshipping community.

There will be a service of Thanksgiving for the last year on Sunday May 16th as we give thanks for where we have been and where the Holy Spirit is guiding us into the future. I begin with Good Shepherd on Monday May 17th. I ask that you pray for both communities as we move into a time of transition; I have coveted your prayers as Community of Good Neighbors has been through its own discernment!

So, I would like to end this announcement with so many thanks. God is good and ministry continues!

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Miranda Hammer