



What a beautiful fall we have had this year! I can't remember a year when the leaves have taken so long to fall and yet their vibrant colors stayed for weeks. God has indeed been showing off for us this year!

This photo showed up on Facebook and it really struck me how many changes happen in the fall. School begins. We set our clocks back 1 hour (on November 6). The days get shorter. Our wardrobe changes to flannel and sweaters and long pants. The leaves fall off the trees. The temperatures cool down. The boiler gets fired up at church.

We don't like a lot of change. And yet, like the picture says, change can be beautiful. The beauty comes when we open ourselves up to something new. And yes, I know, we have had a lot of change here at First Presbyterian Church! I am beginning, however, to see the sparkle of hope and possibility in the eyes of this congregation. While it has been sad to say good-bye to so many of our church leaders, we are all beginning to realize that we will be ok. God will still be praised. We will still teach our children and youth about the stories of our faith. We can still make music. We still have work to do and yet, it is now beginning to take on a sense of excitement.

It is my hope that we can all look forward with anticipation and excitement and not anxiety and worry. We can find joy in new possibilities. We can find hope in new beginnings. And we can find beauty in the journey on which God is taking us.

Blessings,

Beth