

From Our Pastor –July 2018

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Dear Church Family,

Though no one in their right mind looks forward to moving to the desert in the middle of the summer, I look forward to beginning my venture as your new pastor. I am presently at the tail end of clearing out my old office in Colusa, taking care of last minute details in the Colusa church, and saying goodbye to longtime friends. Soon I will begin preparing the first sermon I will share with you.

Here is what I hope you will find in me as your new pastor:

A love for God. Christ's love has transformed and filled my life. God is the greatest treasure of my life. I find in Him joy and peace and hope and strength and comfort. My richest sense of fulfillment in ministry has been in helping people come into relationship with Christ and to grow in Him. Growing in Christ is what I hope to keep doing throughout my life.

A hunger for God's Word. I look upon the Bible as a great treasure chest filled with multitudes of jewels. I love to dig into that treasure chest and discover new jewels. But those jewels are not merely things of beauty to gaze at. The jewels of God's Word comfort me and direct me and stretch me and challenge me; they change my life. I love being a minister and having the opportunity to help others to dig into this treasure chest with me.

A care for people. I believe that every person I meet is dearly loved by God, and I believe that God calls me and empowers me to love each person with the love that He keeps growing in my heart. I will seek to listen to you, to understand you, to take to heart the concerns of your life, to respect you, and to rejoice with you in the joys of your life.

I believe you will find me to be a person of faith, compassion, genuineness, and joy.

I look forward to getting to know all of you, and I look forward to seeing what God will do in our midst.

-Pastor Tom

To learn more about Pastor Tom's vision of ministry—and for a preview of his July 1 sermon—visit his blog at: <https://tomtrippblog.wordpress.com/>