



## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

***The Reverend Sharon A. Schuler, Pastor***

September 19, 2021

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe I have been with you for almost ten years! In many ways the time has flown by. We have faced just about every challenge possible for a congregation seeking to be faithful disciples in the name of Jesus Christ. Now, I feel it is time for me to retire and allow the church to explore new and exciting ways in which to serve the Lord for the future.

As you are aware, the last few years have been difficult for me personally with health issues and family obligations. Your support during this time has meant the world to me and John. Your compassion and care have been second to none. However, I feel the need to step back from day-to-day leadership in order to take care of myself and my loved ones.

My last Sunday will be November 21, 2021. It is fitting because I began ministry with you on the Sunday before Thanksgiving in 2011, and was introduced to the delicious tradition of Harvest Home Dinner on that day.

I am proud of the things we have accomplished together and I have no doubt you will continue to be faithful to God's call here at First Presbyterian Church. The Lord is not finished with either one of us yet, but we must be open to listen for God's voice leading us to the next step in our faith journeys. This church and its mission will always be in my prayers, although I will not be able to be a part of the ministry here in any way after November 21. The Presbytery of Florida, through the Committee on Ministry, will assist you with the next steps to take in the search for new leadership.

May the grace of the Lord's presence be with us all as we take a new path of discipleship following our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Blessings,

Sharon