

Pastoral Reports • February 8, 2009

Community Mennonite Church, Markham, Illinois

From Pastor Cyneatha:

Seven months in Markham, things are going well. I miss not having Steven with me full time, but we are managing. I would like to thank CMC for the use of the apartment. We are making it home for now.

2008 was a year of major change and trials in my family's life. I thank God for the support we received from our CMC family. I am not sure how we would have made it this far with out your love and care. I pray God's blessing on all of you.

Over the last seven months I have learned a lot about this community, as I am sure you all have learned a lot about me. I believe God is about to do some amazing things with CMC. I also believe we will be challenged to live out our call of unity in diversity. I believe what this community has been preparing for over the last ten or fifteen years is here. And — we are about to see if we are who we claim to be. I predict the next few years are going to be really hard for us as a racially/ethnically diverse community. But God is going to transform lives and we will be blessed to be a part of the building of God's Kingdom.

So strap in, get your knee-pads on, give more than you get, love more than you're loved, work harder than those around you and see the glory of God revealed through the body of Christ.

In Our Creator's Love,

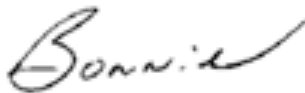


Pastor Cyneatha Millsaps

From Pastor Bonnie:

In looking back over these last six months, I marvel and tremble at God's leading in our lives as pastors and as a congregation. I am confident that we are indeed where we should be at this time. I am blessed to be able to continue to serve this beloved community. Chuck and I treasure all the cards and gifts of love that were given to us at his commissioning as IMC's Conference Minister on December 28. As I said at Cyneatha's installation as lead pastor on January 11, I gladly commit myself to working as Associate Pastor under Pastor Cyneatha's leadership. We are still learning each other's strengths and weaknesses and delight in the openness and honesty of our relationship as staff. I am grateful that my half-time employment with CMC allows me the flexibility I need as we adjust to Chuck's new travel schedule. Counting on His grace and mercy,

Bonnie



Associate Pastor Bonnie Neufeld