



September Minister's Message

A Fresh Start

September always feels a little like a fresh start to me. Maybe it's because of the rhythm of the school year. After a summer of vacations, changing schedules, and a little more freedom, backpacks come out, classrooms fill up, and there is a sense that it's time to begin again. Even for those of us who are long past our school days, September carries that feeling of turning a page and starting something new.

The same can be true for the church. Summer often brings a different rhythm to our lives. Some travel, some take time away, and our regular routines can get a little scattered. But as September arrives, there is an opportunity to start afresh, not just in our calendars, but in our faith.

Our mission reminds us what that fresh start can look like: Connect. Grow. Serve.

Connect with God and with one another. Worship is more than something we attend; it is an opportunity to reconnect with God and with our church family. Our fellowship opportunities, from gathering around a table to simply sharing conversation and laughter, remind us that faith was never meant to be lived alone.

Grow in our understanding and practice of faith. This fall brings opportunities for Bible Study and our church Book Club. Whether you have participated in a study before or have never joined one, I encourage you to give it a try. Sometimes a fresh start is simply being willing to learn something new, ask a question, or see a familiar passage in a new way.

Serve by putting our faith into action. As we move into another season of ministry and outreach, there will be opportunities to serve our neighbors and our community. Serving reminds us that what happens within these walls is only part of what it means to be the church.

Perhaps September is a good time to ask ourselves: Where do I need a fresh start in my faith? Maybe it is returning to worship regularly. Maybe it is making time for prayer or Scripture. Maybe it is joining a Bible Study, coming to fellowship, participating in Book Club, or finding a new way to serve. Maybe it is simply opening ourselves again to what God might be doing in our lives. We don't have to reinvent ourselves or make a long list of resolutions. We simply need to take the next step.

As a new season begins, let's begin again together. Connecting more deeply, growing in faith, and serving with purpose. I look forward to seeing where this new season takes us and, most of all, to sharing the journey with you.

Pastor John

