



February 2, 2024

Dear Ones,

Yesterday, God Blessed Me. A good friend texted me and offered an opportunity to reconnect after several months apart. I accepted it. After we each described the expected and fun updates of our family members and mutual friends, she asked me how I am. And I shared with her a worry that has been in my heart for some time. Something I speak about only with my husband and my sisters. My friend's compassion is great enough that I could tell her my fears and know she would not judge. I remembered she would sit with me (on the phone) and feel it with me. This was the gift I needed. It is a gift I often forget is available any time I desire or need it. I do not know what will happen with the issue that sits on my heart. I do know that I can handle it.

This gift of compassion and love is available to us by grace. We are called to remember it, to live it, and to share it with each other and with those we encounter every day.

Last month, we as a church family, were blessed by an opportunity to make new connections. We accepted the opportunity to explore many large and small questions as we consider an attachment with United Parish in Fort Fairfield.

I do not know the outcome for this exploration. During the next several months, I hope we will gather regularly to contemplate how to move forward. This will be a time for excitement and apprehension. How do we nurture ourselves as we transform? I hope we each may speak of our fears and our hopes, without judgment. We will need to honor our history, celebrate who we are, and ponder who we can become. We will sit and feel each other's heart. I ask us to bring God's gift of compassion, trust and love to each gathering.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan C. Moroz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.