



**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL
408 Cedar Street
Wallace, Idaho 83873**

14 April 2024

Dear friends in Christ,

We met as the Executive Board today for the first time since the March 17 meeting when we found it necessary to terminate our Designated Pastor. We want to assure all of you that while we stand by our decision, we grieve along with *every* one of you. This has rocked our congregation to the core but we believe with all of our hearts that we will find a way forward.

Much of our meeting this morning focused on the details of worship, maintaining our presence/leadership in the community and maintaining our facility. We also spent a lot of time talking about the future and what it might hold. The one thing we are absolutely clear about is the importance each and every one of us plays in creating the fabric of this spiritual family.

We are inviting you to join us for supper at 5:00 PM on Wednesday, May 1 at the church. Our Acting Conference Minister of the Pacific Northwest Conference of the UCC, the Rev. Phil Hodson will be with us. We'll have an opportunity to share our stories with one another and with him. We'll also have a chance to hear his perspective on our situation and see what resources he and the Conference might have to offer and the ways he and the Conference can walk with us through this.

In order to plan the evening, we'd like to ask you to call and leave a message or text the church phone (208)753-6351 to let us know you will be attending. You could also drop a note to info@ucc-wallace.org. And, if you don't RSVP but decide you'd like to come at the last minute, don't let that stop you. We'll have plenty of food and a place at the table.

If there is sufficient interest among our out of town folks, we may be able to provide a video link for the meeting. Let us know if that would be helpful to you.

We hope you'll join us . . .

Faithfully,
Katie Bauer
Rev. Benjamin C.L. Crosby
Geoff O'Meara
Christi Thielman