



December 22, 2016

Dear Rev. Whetsell,

It's hard to believe that nearly five months have elapsed since we joined you for Sunday morning worship this summer. I hope that this latter part of the year has been fruitful for your congregation and your ministry. We have a new senior minister, and that has brought with it many changes, as is the United Methodist way, but there is a good Spirit in the air here at Buncombe Street. All the various musical ensembles here have been active during Advent, and we are now closing in on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. What a joy to be able to have morning worship on Christmas Day!

After our visit to New Hope in July, Bill Hines, one of my choir members, painted a watercolor picture of your church. He gave the original print to Ginny and Jim Doolittle, and he had reproductions made for the choir. I am sending one to you as well, and will send one to Rev. Yebuah also, in commemoration of our new friendship.

I certainly hope that we can continue this relationship between our churches, and we encourage you to make a road trip to Greenville in the spring and enjoy our beautiful downtown area. May God's blessings shine upon you and the good people of New Hope UMC. Merry Christmas!

Sincerely,

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