

OBEDIENCE, FREEDOM, AND TRUST

"Pastor Harold's First Day"

Harold Long
June 28, 2020

Memory Verse: Matthew ⁴¹ *"We are intimately linked in this harvest work. Anyone who accepts what you do, accepts me, the One who sent you. Anyone who accepts what I do accepts my Father, who sent me."*

Message from Pastor Harold Long

Hello Friends,

Thank you for welcoming Suzie and me to Hill-Tran United. We are excited to be here for many reasons, but first and foremost is to help you grow in your faith and advance the Kingdom of God right here in Jefferson County. We already realize you don't care how much we know until you see how much we care. We do care about each one of you, dearly. It will take time for the two of us to get to know everyone, but please be patient and give us the chance to do just that. There is no better way to get to know each other than breaking bread together. Starting immediately, we would like to schedule dinners in groups of no more than 6-8 people at a time so that we can listen and learn. You can contact me directly to get on the schedule. Ideally, we would do this in people's homes, and everyone brings something to contribute to the meal. So we hope to be breaking bread with you sooner than later.

Shalom,
Harold and Suzie Long

Lectionary Readings for June 22-28, 2020

Genesis 22:1-4

Psalms 13

Romans 6:12-23

Matthew 10:40-42

QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Read Genesis 22:1-14. What has this familiar story meant to you in your faith? How do you embody or struggle against this type of obedience and trust?

Read Psalm 13. When has your lament allowed you to move from anger with God to praise? How long did that process take?

Read Romans 6:12-23. How does the definition of death as a life cut off from God rather than a biological reality change your understanding of this passage? How might you incorporate this definition of death to change your life?

Read Matthew 10:40-42. Who is in your wider community of witnesses? How does their example prompt you to turn to others in service?

Notes:

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