

Dear Friends,

In worship on June 10, the Sunday of the Annual Meeting, I shared seven basic beliefs that have shaped the United Church of Santa Fe since its beginning. Although the particular ways in which we live out these beliefs changes from generation to generation in the church, the basic faith remains the same.

This summer, as we enjoy the longer days of this season and also look ahead to the coming year, I invite you to consider these core beliefs. How do they shape not only our life together as a church, but also your own life of faith and discipleship?

Blessings,

Seven Basic Beliefs That Shape The United Church of Santa Fe

- There is always more light and truth to break forth from God's holy word.¹
- God's Spirit "binds in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues and races"²
(trans: *All are welcome.*)
 - Faith is a journey.³
 - There is One who walks with us.⁴
 - To love God is to love neighbor and love creation.⁵
 - This is a faith worth sharing.⁶
 - This world needs this faith.⁷

1. From the parting words of Congregational Pastor John Robinson to the Pilgrim founders as they set off for a new life and a new way to live out their faith.

2. The United Church of Christ Statement of Faith.

3. The entire Bible.

4. Ibid. (particularly Micah 6:8: "What does the Lord require of us, but to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God?" and the life of Jesus Christ).

5. Micah 6:8, plus the Deuteronomy Code of Moses and the teachings of Jesus Christ.

6. People like Martin Luther King, Jr., Francis and Clare of Assisi, Dorothy Day, and Dietrich Bonhoeffer all believed that. So did the people who founded the United Church of Santa Fe and the ones who have built it over the last 32 years.

7. Look around you.