

Rev. Ray Simms Pastor's Report

September 15, 2026

Worship:

Held In-person and Live Streamed Worship – August 23, 30k, September 6, 13.

Congregational Care: (Month of November)

- All Visits: 17
- Memorial Service: 0
- Calls: 65
- Cards: 14
- Emails: 35
- Text Messages: 30

Meetings and Events

August

19th – Telephone meeting with congregant/ In office meeting – congregant

20th – Meeting with Edgewater Prep Principal/in office meeting – congregant

25th – Staff Meeting/Tech Team Meeting/Telephone meeting – congregant.

26th – Delivered food to local resident in need/Home visit with congregant

31st – In office meeting congregant/Network Gathering Planning Meeting/Dinner Club

September

1st – Staff Meeting/Budget Team Meeting/

3rd – Worship Team Meeting

5th – BOD Meeting re: Bathroom Project

6th – FAST House Meeting/Hispanic Heritage Planning Meeting

9th – Staff Meeting

10th – In office meeting Ed March (EM) MCC Spiritual Community/In office meeting congregant/Vice-moderator Meeting/Budget Meeting

13th – Hispanic Heritage Planning Meeting

15th – Staff Meeting/BOD Meeting **August Overview**

August was marked by steady pastoral care, administrative coordination, and community engagement, reflecting the continued commitment to serving the congregation and strengthening partnerships within the wider community.

Pastoral Care & Congregational Support: On August 19th, I held both a telephone meeting and an in-office meeting with congregants, offering pastoral presence and support. Additional pastoral care took place on August 25th through a telephone meeting with a congregant, and again on August 26th with a home visit to a congregant and the delivery of food to a local resident in need. These encounters highlight the ongoing need for accessible pastoral connection and tangible care within our community.

Community Partnerships & Education Engagement: On August 20th, I met with the Principal of Edgewater Prep to continue building relationships with the school and discuss details of the new lease and getting up to date on the rent.

Staff Coordination & Ministry Operations: August included several internal leadership and ministry meetings. On August 25th, both the Staff Meeting and Tech Team Meeting were held, ensuring alignment across administrative and worship-support functions. On August 31st, I conducted an in-office meeting with a congregant, participated in the Network Gathering Planning Meeting, and attended the Dinner Club gathering, reinforcing both operational planning and congregational fellowship.

September Overview

September reflected a full and productive ministry cycle, with significant activity across worship planning, governance, pastoral care, and cultural celebration initiatives.

Staff Leadership & Ministry Teams: Staff Meetings were held on September 1st, 9th, and 15th, providing consistent coordination across ministries. On September 3rd, the Worship Team Meeting focused on upcoming services, liturgical planning, and worship flow.

Governance & Facilities Oversight: On September 5th, the Board of Directors convened to discuss the Bathroom Project, addressing facility needs and stewardship of the church's physical resources.

Justice, Inclusion & Cultural Celebration: September included important justice-centered and cultural planning work. On September 6th, both the FAST House Meeting and the Hispanic Heritage Planning Meeting took place, reflecting our commitment to advocacy, equity, and celebrating the diversity within our congregation. A follow-up Hispanic Heritage Planning Meeting was held on September 13th to continue preparations.

Pastoral Care & Denominational Collaboration: September 10th was a particularly full day of ministry engagement. I held an in-office meeting with Ed March (EM) regarding his MCC Spiritual Community, strengthening denominational connection and shared ministry vision. Additional pastoral care was offered through an in-office meeting with a congregant. Later that day, I participated in the Vice-Moderator Meeting and the Budget Meeting, supporting both denominational leadership and local financial planning.

Staff Time Off

Rev. Ray Oct 7-8, 11-14