

Farewell to Pastor Litany

Rev. Carpenter and his family, Dawn, Jordan, and Ethan, arrived in Covington seven years ago, and have served with us during many changes in our lives and their own. It has now come time to bid Pastor Carpenter farewell in his role as our pastor.

We bid you goodbye, and we will pray for God's blessings on you and your family.

Thank you, the members and friends of First United Methodist Church,
for the love and support you have shown me while I have ministered among you.

I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted.

I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made.

As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness for your mistakes,

and we accept that you now leave to be our District Superintendent.

We thank you for your time among us.

We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes.

**Your influence on our faith and faithfulness
will remain with us after your departure.**

Thank you for your gratitude and forgiveness,
and I offer the same grace and forgiveness you have given me,

trusting that our time together and our parting
are pleasing to God.

I encourage your continued ministry here

and will pray for you and for your new pastor.

I entrust you now to the care of Christ and to your new pastor,
Wade Cox.

(Lay Representative takes stole from pastor, and pastor and lay representative place stole on altar.)

Let us pray.

Eternal God, whose steadfast love for us is from everlasting to everlasting,

we give you thanks for cherished memories

**and commend one another into your care as we move
in new directions.**

**Keep us one in your love forever, through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.**