

June 26, 2023

Dear family and friends of the United Methodist Church of Santa Cruz,

I am excited to begin a new chapter of life together with you and the church. As we embark on this journey, I am reminded that God's ways are different from our ways, and I feel grateful for the opportunity to be part of this community.

As we move forward, I would like to acknowledge your grieving over Pastor Jay and his caring heart for the family of the church, as well as all God's people. I am honored to follow in his footsteps as a following pastor. I'm sure we will get to know each other as we share our life and ministry together, and I hope to be a source of support for you in any way that I can.

Let me tell you a little bit about myself. I was born in South Korea and come from a third-generation Methodist family. I came to the US in January of 1990 to pursue my studies, and for the past 24 years, I have served in cross-cultural appointments in the California Nevada Conference and Northern Illinois Conference. My wife, Maria, and I have been married for 13 years, and although we do not have children of our own, we celebrate the births of many throughout the church and embrace the true family of God.

In my free time, I enjoy fishing, kayaking, biking, and photography. These hobbies remind me of God's grace and the beauty of the world around us.

I don't know what God has in store for the family of Santa Cruz, but I am confident that God knows what we need the most. Therefore, with God's help and your support, I would like to continue uplifting the ministries for all.

This coming Sunday, I will share about "Hospitality" with a sermon titled "Quenching a Thirst" based on what Jesus said in Matthew 10:40-42, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me." I hope that you will join us on this journey as followers of Jesus.

Peace,

Pastor Kangse