



February 27, 2022

Thank you from Phoebe

You Help Us Reach the Heart and Soul of our Residents.

- Spiritual Renewal Programs
- Weekly Worship Services
- Bible Study & Devotionals
- "Spirit Alive" for seniors with dementia

"A community of faith, called by God, to enrich the lives of our seniors, their families, and the communities we serve."

We are so grateful to the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference and its UCC members for their support of Phoebe Ministries!

Your generosity helps provide quality care services, uplifting activities, and faith-based programs that focus on the spiritual well-being of every resident, no matter their faith or denomination.

Thank you for your long-time commitment to Phoebe and those we serve.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Rev. Dr. Scott Brooks-Cope, Director, Pastoral Care Services
Phone: 610-794-5132, Email: scope@phoebe.org, [Phoebe.org/giving](https://www.phoebe.org/giving)

From our NEW Associate Conference Minister for Search & Call

Greetings Pennsylvania Southeast Conference,

I thank you for calling me as your settled Associate Conference for Search and Call, a position I formally began on February 1. I'm excited about this new phase of my ministry and to be a part of the "greatest conference in the United Church of Christ," as our Conference Minister Bill Worley reminds us all the time. For those who may not know, my family is from Mississippi, though I was born in Singapore to a family whose father worked in the oil business. At age 2 my family was transferred to Indonesia, and I stayed there until I was around 12 years old, which is when we moved back to the United States. My parents were not religious people, and I was essentially the same until I became a Christian at age 13, which transformed my life and my life journey. That encounter with the living Christ changed my world, and I become involved in various Southern Baptist churches. At a Southern Baptist youth camp in Oklahoma, I walked "the sawdust trail" and accepted a calling to pastoral ministry at age 15 or 16.

In 2005, I was granted privilege of call in the UCC, which was a moment of theological homecoming of sorts for me. I deeply love this collection of churches that is the United Church of Christ and am so glad to call it my denominational home. I am appreciative of its proclamation of the Gospel in both its words of love for all and in its deeds meant to bring about justice in this world in Christ's name.

Over 24 years of ordained ministry, I have served as a part-time minister, while holding down 2 other jobs, a new church start pastor, an associate pastor in two settings, one being at a large church that had 2100 attendees on Sunday, and a small church pastor in a rural setting. I just completed over 10 years of service as the Pastor of the good people of Epiphany UCC in Chicago, IL. I have pastored in congregations that have numerically grown and numerically declined and ones where money was never an issue to congregations that told me not to cash my weekly \$300 paycheck until the plate offering was deposited a few days after my payday. One of those churches I served has even closed. Like many of you, I have seen tremendous changes in the church, and new challenges I could never have imagined 23 years ago, but I bear witness that God has been present in all that change and challenge and for that I am thankful. My work with you will be supporting you in your search for a new minister when the time arrives for a pastoral transition in your own setting, to which I will bring all my efforts and passion.

Again, thank you for issuing this call to serve the churches of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference!

Rev. Kevin J. McLemore, Associate Conference Minister for Search & Call