

At the beginning of the Luke passage, the two disciples were traveling to Emmaus and away from Jerusalem. Away from their faith family. Away from Jesus. They were disappointed. They had thought that Jesus was going to be their Messiah, to fix all their problems. So now they were walking away, complaining and commiserating about all that had happened, blind to the fact that they were in the presence of Jesus himself.

In this time of transition, we as a congregation need to be careful not to be like these disciples. This is not a time for walking away from our faith family, but for growing together even stronger. This Easter season is a time for rebirth, new beginnings. This parallels what is happening in our church right now. We are at the very beginning of our new beginning. As our PNC works diligently to find us our new pastor, we have the opportunity to grow our church into what we want it to be.

In January, Session decided that it was important for our church to have a new team - the Worship team. A team dedicated to not only making sure worship runs smoothly, but also to making sure the worship we do in our church speaks to your heart. So, we have the mission statement "Energetically connecting all heart languages in worship." Our goal is attention and retention. We want you to feel fulfilled from worshiping at our church, and to continue to do so. I think many of us have had the thought that when the pastor is not at church, it is ok for us to miss, too. But, as we patiently wait for our new pastor, this is our chance to come together. The time not to walk away, but to more fully engage.

So, our first step in connecting all the heart languages in our church is probably to explain what a heart language is. At the end of the Luke passage, the disciples' eyes are opened that they are in the presence of Jesus. To me, your heart language is when you feel that connection to Jesus. Although we are no longer in Jesus' physical presence, when do you feel closest to him? What worship experiences make you feel like you are with God? Your heart language is when you are filled with the inexpressible and glorious joy spoken of in 1 Peter.