

October 14, 2021

Dear Members of FPC,

I am announcing my retirement as of May, 2022. This will be my 21st year at the church which I love with all my heart.

When I came to Houston, after 33 years of music ministry with three different churches, I planned to hang up my robe and be a college music prof at HBU. I sang in the choir at the First United Methodist Church here for that first year, and then sang in the choir at St. Luke's United Methodist for the second year.

However, FPC approached me (Diane was still in Little Rock selling the house) and I auditioned for the position of Director of the Chancel Choir. What I heard was a very fine choir with great people and a tremendous history of leading in worship.

This is the best church choir I have ever directed. They are faithful and can be depended upon when duty calls.

I have been so very fortunate to work with this fine pastoral staff, each of whom I value for their faith and leadership. Good friends in ministry.

So, dear friends, I will be here until next May. We have some very exciting events planned for the coming year. Our main focus is, and always will be, leading the congregation in worship.

This church has a heart for mission here and abroad. When we hear from one of our ministry partners, I realize again the commitment of this congregation.

It has been a high privilege to serve and a very great blessing for Diane and me. We will not be strangers.

Much love to everyone,

Dr. John Yarrington (Dr Y)