

Dearly beloved,

Grace and peace to you, through God our steadfast Parent and our Brother-Lord Jesus. We hope that this letter finds you and your beloveds healthy, and that you are finding all you need in the Spirit of the living Christ.

We are making our way into a hope-filled and forward-looking 2023 – how about you? For us, the near horizon shines with several lovely realities:

First – We're celebrating our 10th **anniversary** at Pentecost this year! We're planning to use all of Eastertide (late April, all of May) to remember and be grateful for all the weird and wonderful stuff God has done in our decade of life together.

And the weekend of Pentecost, May 26-28 (which also coincides with Memorial Day weekend this year) – well, eyes have not seen, nor ears heard, the likes of the party we're planning. A Friday homecoming dance, a Saturday fair, picnic-on-the-grounds on Sunday, and a birthday worship service that will raise the roof. (Maybe literally. The Big Red Barn is not that robust.) **We hope you can come!** We'd so love to celebrate with you! Save-the-Date cards will follow this letter soon.

Second – We're preparing to call our first-ever, full-time, Associate Pastor! Or, as I keep naming them, the Sidekick Evangelist. Following the mantra "minister to the health," meaning that we send resources to the parts of the system that are strong and getting stronger, the S.E. will be dedicated to the Inside Out (online) ministry and community, and our (onsite) young kids and their families. And some of my work will be distributed to that lucky person, too! Join us in praying that God is even now preparing exactly the right person for this call.

Third – We're gearing up to get in some good trouble as the 88th Texas legislature convenes. We know they've painted a target on LGBTQ+ folx and families, and we're seeking ways to stand up for the inclusive love of God for all God's children. It's a hard season in Texas politics, have you noticed? But together we break off manageable pieces of resistance and carry Jesus's manifesto of love into the halls of power.

We're so glad and grateful to count you as a partner, friend, and co-conspirator in this good work. We know your dollars stand for prayers, well wishes, good counsel, and (in some cases) steadfast presence among us, onsite or online. Thanks for every breath of effort you have exerted for the sake of this community of belonging in Jesus's name.

grace and peace,

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p.s. **If you can't be here in person,** join us for the Inside Out worship livestream, Sundays at 5 pm CT, at galileochurch.org/livestream. OR catch "Last Week's Worship" on our website under "Inside Out" – it's usually posted by Tuesday. You are welcome!