New Beginnings for a New Year!

Greetings my beloved community! In 2016, God is calling us to offer our lives more fully for ministry. “Did you not know that I must be about my Father’s business?” These are the first words Jesus speaks in Luke’s Gospel. “I must be...” is a divine imperative. We hear this divine must throughout Luke’s Gospel. At Asbury our divine must is to love God and one another, serve our community, and transform lives!

Last Sunday, I challenged you to write a sentence describing how you will live into that commitment. As we begin the New Year, again I am challenging you to go beyond the usual New Year’s resolutions and discover your individual divine must. Prayerfully write your personal mission statement, share it, and live it!

Respond to the following questions about your identity, vision, and gifts from your heart without overthinking.

Identity: Who are you? Why are you here? What roles do they serve in life? (e.g., mother, son, mentor, friend, doctor, Christian servant, etc.)

Vision: What would the world have more of if you were living at your unhindered best? (e.g., peace, beautiful music, well-designed buildings, great meals, etc.)

Gifts: What are your strengths and passions? (e.g., teaching, mercy, organization, wisdom, etc.)

Now pull those thoughts together into your Personal Mission Statement:

As a (list your roles), through God’s grace, I partner with God to make a world of (list your visions) by or through (list your gifts).

May you be richly blessed in this New Year!

Pastor Mills

My Personal Mission Statement: As a minister of the gospel, through God’s grace, I partner with God to reach those in the margins of society and recreate a world where none are oppressed by using my gifts of preaching, teaching, encouragement, healing and reconciliation.

NOTE: I will collect and pray over your mission statement. Please put it in the collection plate; drop it in the mailbox near the church office; email it to asburymail@asburyumc.org, or bring it to the church office.