## From the Pastor August 2019 A Message from Pastor Sondra

Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes. (Psalm 119:135) NRSV

Like many of you, I like to look at different scripture translations

to gain insight and understanding. This week, in my daily readings, Psalm 119:135 blessed my morning. As I looked in various translations, honestly, I laughed out loud! As I pray this prayer for God to teach and lead me ... I also pray it is true for our life together!

Look upon me with love; teach me your decrees. (Psalm 119:135) NLT

It is a joy to get to know you, and learn of the many ministries happening at MUMC. It will take me a while to learn names, and stories, and vision. I am grateful for each of you! And, celebrate the conversations I've already had ....and look forward to learning more from more of you. I am glad to be with you, and rejoice because God is at work among us.

Yet God also has more to do within and among us. In a way, that is the psalmist prayer: reveal yourself Lord; teach me You! We're invited to embrace the idea that God is always drawing us into a deeper relationship – desiring to shine brightly; wanting to teach and lead; yearning to reveal God's love to us in Jesus Christ. I think this is GOOD NEWS! I think this is life-giving news! I think this is news worth investing my life in, and sharing with the world. Yet we must have teachable spirits, willing and receptive hearts.

So, let us continue to trust a God who looks upon us with love and leads us on a path of abundant, full life. That's who I want to follow.

How about you? Grace and Peace,

Pastor Sondra

