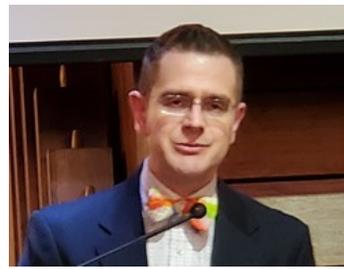


## From the Desk of Pastor Luke

September 8, 2022



Hello everyone,

As most of you know by now, for the last couple of years I've been working on completing a Doctor of Ministry degree focused on spiritual direction, and my specific focus of research has been on how conflict can form us to become more like Jesus. We've had a spiritual direction group meeting on Saturday mornings for the last month, and during one of our sessions we explored what Jesus taught us about conflict. Since our spiritual direction group is limited in size, I thought we could spend some time in our worship services learning from Jesus, too.

So for the next few weeks, that's what we'll be doing: hearing from Jesus about how our conflict can shape us to be more like him. Conflict doesn't have to be destructive or a sign of failure in our community. Instead, it can be testing and refining, and leave us and our community of faith more ready to serve Jesus. I hope you'll join us!

**Sermon info:** This week's sermon is titled "Friction," and we'll be reading Psalm 133 and Matthew 18:15-20.

### Other happenings:

- Join us for Sunday school this Sunday morning at 9:15 as we conclude our study of the three themes of the movie War Room: prayer, forgiveness, and mentoring.
- Calling all musicians! If you have experience playing an instrument or singing and would be willing to share with the congregation, we would love to hear from you. Any skill level, any instrument, any time. Your willingness is a gift to our congregation's worship of God!
- If you have extra vegetables in your garden, bring them to church for others to enjoy! Feel free to take or leave whatever you need from the basket in our entryway.
- I'd also like to mention an upcoming training opportunity for something called Dinner Church, which might help spur some thoughts among us about reaching out to our community. It's sponsored by the Indiana Conference and will be held on October 15th in Indy. [Click here](#) for more information on registration.

Have a blessed week!

Grace and peace,

Luke

