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Bill Couch Announces His Retirement

After several months of prayer and discernment, Margaret and I have determined that it is time to announce my retirement effective July 1, 2016. It is with mixed feelings we make this announcement. You are our church family and we have shared many life experiences together. We will cherish every one of those experiences, and we will miss each of you. At the same time we are excited about the next chapter in our lives. We plan to relocate to the Hill Country north of San Antonio to be closer to our children and especially our grandchildren! We look forward to having time to enjoy our horses and to travel. Of course, we will continue to pursue God's calling upon our lives to bring hope and transformation to others. Since this announcement was made, I have felt a spirit of gratitude for my years of service here and also a spirit of excitement and optimism about the future of LakeRidge UMC. This attitude thrills my heart and reflects the strength of character of our church.

Our Staff-Parish Relations Committee has already begun the search process for the next Senior Pastor. A nationwide search will be conducted by the Dingman Group. Our consultant, Bruce Dingman, met with our leaders and congregation in a series of meetings to develop a profile of what qualities and characteristics are desirable in the next Senior Pastor.

My last Sunday will be May 22, 2016. The new Senior Pastor will preach his/her first sermon on July 10. Please be in prayer for the continued unity and vitality of our church, for our Staff-Parish Relations Committee, for our Staff and their families, and for Margaret and me.

Joy and Peace,
Bill

(Additional information about the transition process will be posted regularly on our website)

changing our world. together.