



October 31, 2018

Greetings, Church!

The **ABIDE** team representing FUMC Rusk attended the last training retreat on Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. It was a meaningful experience to review the completion of more than a year of seeking God's guidance and learning so much, but we felt that we had just begun. We were encouraged to develop a vision for the year ahead and were offered the opportunity to continue to receive support for another year with our ABIDE coach, Ellen Harris. Ellen lives in Alabama and is employed by Spiritual Leadership, Incorporated. She has much wisdom to share and has been a great support to us. We were unanimous in our decision to continue. Our conference and district have chosen to cover the expense of this coaching and we are thrilled to be able to continue. We will not attend any more retreats but will meet together and with Ellen (via video conference) regularly. It is our goal to walk with Jesus and this congregation in unity of purpose to make disciples for the transformation of the world. If you would like to learn more about SLI and ABIDE, go to the website at **[www.spiritual-leadership.org](http://www.spiritual-leadership.org)**.

We were sad to lose Johnnie Richey as a valued member of the team, and we will continue to pray for him, his family and for his leadership in this church.

It is great to witness this church participate enthusiastically in ministry, the fruits of which are evident. We are excited about the possibilities and challenges before us. Thank you so much for your support.

*Judy Faye Garner, Leslie Hassell, Karen Hendley, Dale Landis,  
Frances Long, Ben Middlebrooks, Bart Reddoch*