**Bearing Fruit – July 18, 2021**

**Welcome Dr. Vincent Gaddis**

Dr. Vincent Gaddis is a friend of our Minster of Youth and Young Adults, Dr. Blair Nelson, and our Pastor Wendy Boden. Dr. Gaddis (Vince) and Blair both teach in the Department of History, Philosophy and Religious Studies at Benedictine University. Vince is also a minister and community activist whose objective is to help create the vision of the Beloved Community. His current research is for a future book entitled *Revolution in Values: Why America Must Embrace the Beloved Community*. Vince is a public speaker who regularly gives presentations on race and racism, the Prison Industrial Complex, and the question of values in America.

As of August 17, Dr. Gaddis will begin the next phase of his career as he joins the faculty of Elgin Community College.

We also welcome Vince’s wife, Cathy Gaddis, Assistant to the Curator at Benedictine University.

They say a picture is worth a thousand words. Today’s slideshow reflects the diverse interests, family, and friends of Dr. Gaddis. Please take a look. There will not be an exam after worship, but after watching you may have a few questions for today’s preacher.

**Another welcome… via technology!**

In May Suzanne Tennyson came in from her home in Colorado to attend a wedding, and she came to Southminster to record several songs. We’re using her recording of *Amazing Grace* today as our offertory.

Many of us remember Suzanne’s faithful presence in the choir while she lived here. Now she joins us each week via Facebook live, and she still considers Southminster to be her home church. It truly is a modern age. It’s always nice when you can join us, Suzanne, by whatever means we use.