



March 1, 2023

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) provided an update to the congregation in the annual meeting February 26 and wanted to share that information in this newsletter as well. As a reminder, the PNC was elected by the congregation in December to search for the next Senior Pastor to be called to First Presbyterian.

At the time of the election of the PNC, the following broad outline of steps of the search process were shared:

The PNC will put together a position prospectus, the equivalent of a church resume, with information about First Presbyterian and Winston-Salem.

The PNC will then post a job opening on ECO's Job Board, various other strategic websites, and ask people and organizations in our network to share the opportunity with others.

The PNC will review resumes of potential senior pastors, listen to sermons, and make a list of pastors with whom they would like to talk about the position at First Presbyterian.

After refining the list of candidates, the PNC will begin formal interviews and check references on their top candidates.

Once the PNC prayerfully discerns who it believes God is calling as our next Senior Pastor, it will notify the ECO Presbytery's Ministry Partnership Team who will interview the candidate and give their approval.

The PNC will then notify the Session that it has discerned who God is calling to serve First Presbyterian and ask that the Session call a Congregational Meeting for the purpose of calling a Senior Pastor.

At the called meeting, the Congregation will receive a bio, hear PNC's recommendation, and vote to call our next Senior Pastor.

The actual timeline for these steps varies with every search. Much of the work of the PNC is confidential out of respect for the possible candidates and to maintain the integrity of the process, but the PNC will provide periodic updates to the Congregation as they are able.

The members of the PNC are: Suzanne Burke, Michelle Collins, Gayle Ford, Nathan Hatch, Scott Herman, Chuck Hobbs, Whitney Hunter, David Satterwhite, and Tim Sechrest. The Committee began meeting in late December.

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Members of the PNC have met with several people to help inform the process. They include pastoral staff, representatives of the Personnel Committee, our denominational liaison, and covenant partners.

The PNC has developed the position prospectus noted above, and it has been posted on the denomination's website. The posting includes a profile of the position, First Presbyterian, and our community.

The PNC is moving into a phase of identifying candidates, which will continue until a call to a senior pastor is made. Candidates will emerge from the position prospectus as well as from recommendations or direct queries.

We solicit your prayers for the PNC. Specifically, you can pray for wisdom and energy. And let's all pray for First Presbyterian and for the next Senior Pastor that God has for our church.

Feel free to share your thoughts, encouragement, and perspectives with any member of the PNC. In addition, you can email the PNC at PNC@1stpres.com.