



June 14, 2023

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) continues its search for the next Senior Pastor whom the Lord will call to First Presbyterian. We believe that God has great plans for our church, and the task of the PNC is to discern whom God has for us to lead in these times.

As a quick review, the PNC has been meeting regularly since January. The PNC has and continues to engage in direct conversations with candidates, yet we believe we are still early in the process and have much prayer, work, and discernment ahead of us.

The PNC is committed to relying heavily upon the Lord's guidance and remaining faithful to His good providence as we continue to search for the next leader of First Presbyterian Winston-Salem. We look with eager anticipation and hopefulness toward the future of our church; we are excited to dream about and discuss the many opportunities that may lie ahead. And yet, we acknowledge that transition and change can feel unsettling and perhaps daunting. It is in this spirit that we ask you to commit to joining us in prayer for these specific prompts in addition to the prayers you feel called to pray during this search.

Pray for the:

**CALL:** ask God to reveal, in His time, an individual whose unique gifts and calling match harmoniously with the Lord's call for First Presbyterian to Encounter God through worship, Equip the congregation for discipleship, and Engage the world in mission. Also, that this individual begins to feel the Holy Spirit's prompting to consider joining us at First Presbyterian!

**CURRENT STAFF and CHURCH LEADERSHIP:** for discernment and preparation in the hearts of those who will aid in the next transition and who continue to do good works here at First Presbyterian even now - that they would be filled with optimism and enthusiasm for our church's future.

**CONNECTION:** for our PNC to continue to work well together with grace, unity, and joy!

**CONGREGATION:** for confidence that God will lead us to the Senior Pastor He desires for our church; for the conversations we have to be glorifying to God, edifying for the church, and encouraging to each other; for continued Kingdom formation and work in our congregation as the process continues.

The work of the PNC at present is to discern from a variety of candidates which one we believe is uniquely called to be the next Senior Pastor at First Presbyterian. There is no set timeline for this task, and while we are reliant upon God's timing, the PNC has been working diligently with hopes of finding the right candidate as expeditiously as we are able. Team members have been busy listening to sermons, researching candidates' backgrounds, seeking additional candidates, having conversations with

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candidates we have found to be compelling, and praying to be moved by others who have not yet been made known to us.

In the meantime, the PNC gives God thanks for the work Jace is doing as our Transitional Pastor. We are grateful for the extension of his contract through September, and we continue to pray blessings over his ministry here, as well as where the Lord might be calling him after First Presbyterian.

The PNC is thankful for the many ways you have supported the work we have been charged to do, and we welcome your thoughts, encouragement, and perspectives. You may contact any member of the PNC or may email the group at: [PNC@1stpres.com](mailto:PNC@1stpres.com).

*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.*