

20 January 2015

To the members of First Presbyterian Church --

We are taking the next step on our "interim journey" between senior pastors. Mark Diehl, who has so ably guided us as interim pastor, will finish his work at the end of February. Mark leaves us as planned, having completed his contract and successfully led us to the stage when the Pastor Nominating Committee opens our search for a new pastor. He will pursue opportunities closer to his family -- we are grateful for his service and wish him well.

The Session of First Presbyterian Church has approved Marilyn Hedgpeth to once again serve as temporary head of staff beginning March 1. She will be assisted by Sam Miglarese, and Sarah Finbow who have agreed to enhanced roles until we call a permanent senior pastor -- anticipated within the year.

What can you do during this next phase in the life of the church?

- Come to worship on Sunday, February 15th -- hear Mark Diehl preach his final message for us. Then join our celebration of his interim leadership at the Fellowship Lunch after worship.
- Attend church Sunday mornings -- beginning in March, we'll enjoy meaningful worship led by Marilyn, Sam and Sarah and augmented by guest preachers once a month.
- Volunteer your time -- have you considered helping with fellowship events, pastoral care, or service and mission activities? March would be a great time to volunteer, as our remaining church staff will be stretching further to meet these needs.
- Share your ideas with the Pastor Nominating Committee -- chaired by Paul Baldasare, they are hard at work seeking exciting nominees to consider leadership at First Presbyterian Church.

The time between senior pastors is a special phase in the life of this church, allowing us to reflect on our history, re-consider our mission, and re-affirm that we -- the members of First Presbyterian Church -- are the church together.

Yours in Christ,

Barbara Gerwe

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Clerk of the Session