

Updates on Pastoral Transition: December, 2018

Note: The following text was an announcement shared by Council President Jim Lewis the week of Sunday December 2nd.

A wise man once told me, that in life, transition is not a crisis. that wise man is Pastor Paul, and it was only a few days ago. But I agree, transition can be, not a crisis but an opportunity--an opportunity to grow stronger. Yes, Pastor Steve and Pastor Paul will be greatly missed, and things will change; but I think it is important for us to look forward to a new and exciting path our church is capable of taking.

With all the changes going on, I would like to give an update on the transition. I had reported earlier the steps that will be taken and am happy to report they are underway.

First, it is important to have pastoral leadership through the interim; and thankfully, we have Pastor Gary with us to fill that role. I have great faith that he is up to the task.

Second, we have formed a committee to work on our Ministry Site Profile, and those committee members are already hard at work to form a strategy to complete this task.

Another thing that needs to be completed is forming and voting on the call committee. The call committee will be asked to find and recruit the Senior Pastor who will be presented to the congregation — and that process is also underway.

This brings me to the importance of our next annual meeting in January. According to the rules of our church, the call committee MUST be voted on and approved by the congregation. In order to do that, we MUST hold a congregational meeting. For that to happen, we MUST have a quorum of church members to hold that meeting. I can't stress enough, how important it is for all of you to attend the annual meeting Sunday, January 27 so the process of selecting a new Senior Pastor can move forward.

Some of you have asked what will happen now that Pastor Paul is leaving. The call process for the associate pastor cannot begin until a new senior pastor is in place. I can assure you the council and staff are working on a plan to have the duties--that the associate pastor is responsible for--be fulfilled.

In closing, the transition process may take a lot of time and effort, but I know it is all in God's hands. In the future, our church will be better and stronger.

In Christ,

Jim Lewis

Council President