

PNC Communication to Congregation

April 15, 2020

As the FPC Greensboro congregation, along with all of the Greensboro community and state of North Carolina have been ordered to “shelter in place” during the coronavirus outbreak, the Pastoral Nominating Committee has been forced to halt its activities while waiting for these orders to be lifted.

The timing has been unfortunate. The PNC was selected a year ago and began meeting in late March of 2019. Much had been accomplished in terms of identifying qualified candidates that excite the committee. In early March 2020, we had actually begun making in person visitations. Without the ability to visit our candidates or bring them to Greensboro, the committee had no choice but suspend its activities. In the meantime, we are following our candidates’ services and sermons via YouTube and Facebook recordings. We are also corresponding with these pastors on a regular basis by email.

On Monday April 13th, the PNC held its 36th meeting, our first virtual meeting via ZOOM. We are beginning the process of planning how we will continue once the restrictions as a result of the coronavirus have been lifted. We have a very strong group of candidates. The challenge, besides “the waiting”, will be to discern whom God is calling to become the twelfth pastor of First Presbyterian Church Greensboro. We are honored to be able to serve in this capacity and are cognizant of the tremendous responsibility we have to the congregation. While our timetable has been blindsided by forces beyond our control, we are optimistic for a successful conclusion.

The PNC would like to thank you for your ongoing support. We ask for your continued prayers for our candidates and for our committee’s discernment.

Please lift up with us verses 25-26 from the third chapter of the Lamentations of Jeremiah:

"The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord."

So we wait patiently, we wait actively, and we wait eagerly while seeking to discern God's will. Let God's people say, "Amen."