

# The REMINDER

JANUARY 2017

Growing UPWARD  
worshipping and praying

Growing INWARD  
becoming more like Christ

Growing OUTWARD  
sharing the good news

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## Update on Pastoral Search Process

December 28, 2016

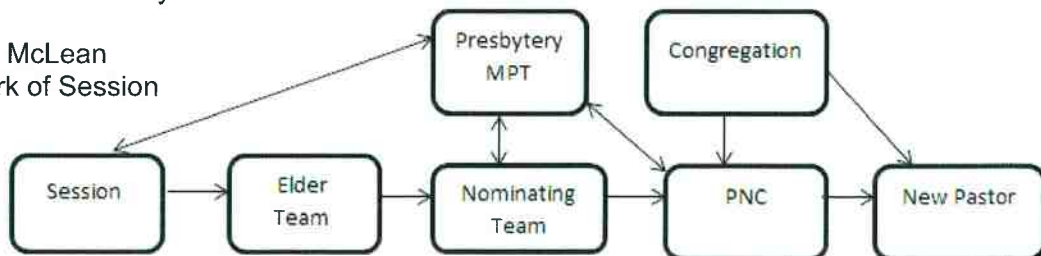
The Session is committed to keeping our Covenant Partners informed and involved as we navigate the transition to new senior pastoral leadership. In that regard, I want to give you an update on recent activity and outline what we foresee as next steps. The flowchart below is simply intended as a broad illustration.

1. On December 13, the Session met with representatives from our Presbytery's Ministry Partnership Team (MPT). The role of the MPT is to come alongside to advise and support the pastoral search process, but not to control it. The meeting was very helpful and productive. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Session received authorization from the MPT to proceed.
2. Next, the Session formed a 7 member Elder team, consisting of the 6 Ministry Unit chairs and the Clerk. This Elder team was delegated the task of selecting a nominating team which will in turn bring nominations before the congregation for the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). It was decided that the nominating team should consist of 7 Covenant Partners: 3 from the Session; 2 from the Board of Deacons; and 2 from the congregation at large.

*I am pleased to report that the following have agreed to serve on the nominating team: Elders: Debbie Jackson, Chris Scott, and Stuart Snow; Deacons Jill Hindman and Rufus Bratton; At-Large: Laura Ann Hofer and Ginger Owen.*

3. The PNC will conduct the actual search for a new lead pastor. While this process will unfold in God's time, not our time, the nominating team hopes it will be able to present a proposed slate for the PNC to the congregation for its approval by the end of January. The nominating team will soon be requesting nominations to the PNC from the congregation, so please begin giving prayerful thought to those Covenant Partners who have the gifts and skills required to serve on the PNC.
4. The Session and the MPT discussed the option of an interim or transitional pastor. This is not mandatory as it was in our former denomination. Still, it remains an option and will be explored if the Session feels that is in the best interest of our church. For now, however, the Session is committed to allowing the process outlined above to unfold. Progress will be closely monitored, and we will continue to keep you posted.

Please pray for this process and in particular at this time for the Lord's wisdom and guidance to the members of the nominating committee as they meet throughout the month of January.



Joe McLean  
Clerk of Session



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