



Pastor Parish Relations Committee (PPRC)
PPRC Meeting Summary from a Joint Meeting with the Governance Board
Monday, December 4, 2023, 5:30 pm

PPRC Attendees: Rev. Dr. Stephen Cady, Frances Dearing, Alex Hunt, , Helen Johnson, Christy Leshner, Jonathan Carroll-Nellenback, John Nutter, Jim Quinn

Devotions:

Valerie Benjamin of the Governance Board provided the devotions.

Minutes of the November 6, 2023 PPRC Meeting Approved

Senior Minister Transition Path Forward:

Church Profile Process. Jim Quinn described the process for updating an Asbury First profile that is required to be submitted to the Conference. Other uses were discussed for the profile's updated contents, for example, in literature that could aid in recruiting a new senior minister. He and Beth Wilkens would synthesize a draft that would be circulated to Rev. Dr. Cady, the Dream Team, the Governing Board and the PPRC for their input.

Interim Search. Beth Wilkens described the process being followed in the search for an interim senior minister. Bishop Burgos is committed to placing an interim senior minister at Asbury First, rather than solely relying on the existing clergy, and to considering input from the Church while looking at possible candidates. Beth Wilkens mentioned that she and Jim Quinn had already begun coordinating with the Dream Team, which is planning on continuing its work up to the point when it becomes important to involve the new senior minister before proceeding further.

Transition Team. Beth Wilkens discussed the creation of a Transition Team, a group of parishioners and staff to serve as a liaison between the Conference's Search Committee and Asbury First. She said that in putting together the proposed team an effort was made to form a diverse group with varying perspectives and backgrounds. The Governance Board and the PPRC each passed resolutions approving creation of a Transition Team composed of Valerie

Benjamin, Barbara Castle, Yvonne Colton, Patrick Fulford, Chuck Hanrahan, Alex Hunt, Kimberly Jones, Ike Jordan, Kristin Parkes, David Strong, and Co-Chairs Beth Wilkens and Jim Quinn.

Constituencies. Beth Wilkens led a discussion of constituencies within and outside the Church that the Transition Team should consult via separate Town Hall Meetings as part of gathering input for Bishop Burgos. These groups were: New Members (session to be held at between the services on December 10); Outreach; Finance/Investment/Stewardship; Properties; Staff; Worship/Hospitality/Altar Guild/Congregational Care; Music; Youth/Children; and the Dream Team. In addition, during the meeting other important constituencies were identified, including Community Outreach Center Neighbors, significant non-member donors, foundations and grant providers, and Seniors/Residents of senior living facilities.

Brainstorming About Updates to the Profile and Covenant. Jim Quinn led the members of the group as they suggested updates to the Profile and Covenant and sources where data and well-prepared descriptions could be found. The group was encouraged to provide any additional feedback by December 8th.

Senior Minister's Report: Rev. Dr. Cady reported that the overwhelming majority of feedback he has received about his planned departure has been kind, gracious and supportive.

Events: The group agreed that someone would speak with the clergy about adding a commissioning ceremony for Rev. Dr. Cady and his family as part of the liturgy on Sunday January 21, Rev. Dr. Cady's last "official Sunday." They also agreed to hold a church-wide celebration in honor of the Cadys in the Spring, after the *snowbirds* have returned to town.