

Dear Church Family,

Happy New Year! What is God going to do for us in 2023? In what ways will we grow more like Him? We eagerly wait to discover all that He will do in and through our FPC family.

We want you to know that we also have questions, just like you do. We wish we already knew who our next pastor will be. We like each other, but we sure would enjoy getting together for events other than search committee meetings! We know God is shaping and molding our church even now as we wait, but we are eager to see how we'll be knit together with a new lead pastor.

And we're trusting. We trust that God is at work and is doing something greater than we can imagine and beyond our comprehension. We have learned many things about who our God is in our recent sermon series, and we trust that He knows best what our church needs. Right now, that also means that we as a committee are exploring some more avenues of recruiting, looking at more candidates that may well fit the mission and vision of our church. Our consultant, Josh Eby, has been a great encouragement in reminding us that fit is more important than timing. As of a couple weeks ago, he is actively recruiting the potential candidates that we have received from you and from others as well as from his wide network of pastors.

And in this new month of the new year, we are looking to the future. By faith, we keep looking to the One who provides, and we want to do that with you. We wait with all of you with hope and trust in God's promises. As we wait, we want to continue to hear from you, so to that end we will now host office hours once a month during the Sunday school hour. Sign-ups will be available on the day of the office hours; you can just come by and put your name down for a 15-minute segment. Our next office hours will be next Sunday, January 22.

Please continue to pray for us and for our consultant Josh Eby, for Pastor Marion Clark and Jon Evans, for our elders and deacons and staff members, and for our new pastor, wherever he might be and in the ways in which he is following our Lord towards FPC. And we pray for you.

In Christ,

The Pastoral Search Committee (Dave Burbridge, Cindy Fitzgerald, Sarah Jones, Rob Joss, Tim Moniz, Russ Queen, Nina Walters, and Becki Whetsel)

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