



Linway United Presbyterian Church

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ERIC E. DENNIS, Pastor

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November 27, 2023

To the Congregation of Linway:

Rev. Dennis has informed us he is retiring effective January 31, 2024. Although this news came as a shock to us, we knew this time would come sooner or later. We have been blessed to have Rev. Dennis lead our church over the last three decades. Changes in Pastors happen numerous times over the life of a church. We will work together as a Congregation to find the next Pastor to lead our church.

The Session has met with representatives from the Pittsburgh Presbytery, and we are following their guidelines on the process to find and hire a new Pastor. The Session has formed a Transition Team made up of Keith Eremic, Lila Sedlak, and Jamie Stewart. The role of this team is to coordinate with the Presbytery and to form an Interim Search Committee (ISC), as well as facilitate the retirement of Rev. Dennis.

The Session has recently appointed the Interim Search Committee made up of Keith Eremic, Lila Sedlak, Jamie Stewart, Scott Gray, Jaime Ruffing, and Dave Brown. The purpose of this committee is to find an Interim Pastor. It is the Presbytery's policy to have an Interim Pastor first to guide us through the transition from Rev. Dennis' retiring to our permanent Pastor. The ISC will begin their search immediately, and hopes to find the right candidate for an Interim Pastor as soon as possible.

The final step will be to nominate and elect a Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC). The Members at large for the Nominating Committee that nominates all elected positions will be chosen at the Annual Congregational Meeting on January 21st. It will then be the Nominating Committee's job to search for and recommend the individuals for the Pastoral Nominating Committee. This allows due diligence for the Nominating Committee on the committee members, and ensures we get a cross section of the congregation for the Pastoral Nominating Committee. The PNC will be comprised of 5 to 7 people, with no more than 2 current Elders. The congregation will have input into the search process through a survey that will be conducted in February.

We want to assure you that we are taking all the steps necessary to find the next Pastor of Linway United Presbyterian Church. Everyone will have an opportunity to be

*The purpose of Linway United Presbyterian Church is to
joyfully worship and serve the mission and ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

"COME, GROW WITH US!"

heard and help in this process. Although we are all sad to see Rev. Dennis retire, this is a great opportunity for him and the church. We need to make sure we continue to move in the direction that meets the congregation's needs while we continue to provide a safe and welcoming environment for people to worship and serve Jesus Christ. We ask that you pray for the committees, Rev. Dennis, and our church during this transition as it will take some time. If you have any questions, please contact a member of these committees.

Sincerely,



Keith R. Eremic
President of the Corporation
Transition Team/ISC Member