

Pastor Nominating Committee Update and Notice of Special Meeting of the Congregation

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is pleased to report that we have chosen a candidate that we will recommend to the Congregation to be the next Pastor of Union Church. For this purpose, the Board of Trustees has called a Special Meeting of the Congregation to be held following the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service on Sunday, May 15, 2022. Official Notice and Meeting Agenda is attached.

For the past two and a half years the Church has been inspired by the leadership of our Interim Pastor, Rev. Dr. Lindley DeGarmo. Before we were hit with the pandemic, we expected the interim period to be shorter. We have been blessed to have Dr. DeGarmo to guide us through these stressful times and we are grateful that he and Sarah have been willing to extend their time with us. The DeGarmo's will be moving to their new home shortly and Dr. DeGarmo's last Sunday with us will be on June 26, 2022.

In the fall of 2021, the PNC began the search for our next pastor. We worked closely with the Hudson River Presbytery and reached out to placement offices from seminaries and divinity schools. The committee reviewed applications and viewed on-line sermons from fifteen applicants. We then invited six candidates to meet with us on Zoom computer calls before we asked two finalists to join us at the church for in-person interviews.

Prior to the Congregational Meeting, we will provide you with a brief overview of the candidate's background and qualifications. We are confident that you will share our excitement about this extraordinary nominee. At the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service on May 15, the candidate will participate in the service and preach the sermon. The Special Meeting will follow immediately where a vote will be called on the Pastor Nominating Committee's recommendation, and the full congregation will determine if the candidate becomes our Pastor.

Looking ahead, should the congregation vote in favor of the call, we anticipate that the new Pastor will begin sometime in mid-August. A formal Installation Service will take place later, most likely in early September.

These are busy and exciting times at Union Church. I want to thank my fellow committee members: Trustees Ruth DiLorenzo, Vice-Chair; Kim Perry, Secretary and Todd Rhoda; Deacon members Sharon Dorzbacher and Carol Staudter; and members at large, Dawn Lorenz and Robert Sweeney. Throughout the process they have taken to heart the well-being and future success of our church family.

I also wish to thank the congregation for your patience and support during these challenging times. Please make every effort to be a part of this important day in the life of Union Church.

David C. Bartholomew, Chair
Pastor Nominating Committee

April 27, 2022