



SAPC Friends,

I am pleased to provide you with an update on the recent progress of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (“APNC”), and the projected timeline for naming an Associate Pastor of Youth and Mission. This position will complement the new Associate Pastor of Congregational Life and Christian Education position.

Firstly, I would like to introduce the Selwyn members who generously serve on the nominating committee. If they are present, please stand or raise your hand: Ellen Harris, Bobby Yurkutat, Andy Wertz, Chris Bahr, Ghazale Johnston, Ginny Burgin, Sue Ward, and Sarah Pineno (who is serving as a youth representative). These individuals continue to dedicate their time and energy to this crucial work, and I am deeply grateful for their commitment.

At the direction of the Session, the committee was formed and began meeting in the fall of 2023. We collaborated with the Personnel Committee and Staff to further define the position's roles and responsibilities. Additionally, we partnered with the Presbytery of Charlotte to complete required nominating committee training and discuss the process and procedures for calling an Associate Pastor. Furthermore, we crafted a detailed job description and Ministry Discernment Profile for Selwyn.

In December, we formally posted the Associate Pastor position via Church Leadership Connection, an online PCUSA denominational job matching database. Concurrently, we initiated informal outreach efforts through staff and Selwyn member networks. I am pleased to report that the position posting attracted over 50 applicants, and we are encouraged by the quality of candidates.

The committee diligently reviewed applications and narrowed our focus to those most qualified for our Youth and Mission ministry priorities. Subsequently, we invited 10 candidates to participate in first-round interviews, which are currently underway and scheduled to be completed by the end of February. Second-round interviews will be held in early March with a smaller subset of candidates, and final-round interviews will be conducted in-person at Selwyn in early April.

The nominating committee remains committed to being intentional, prayerful, and patient as we seek to fill this significant position. Currently, we are on track to make a recommendation to the Session and Congregation later this spring.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to myself or any of the Nominating Committee members. We will endeavor to keep you updated as our work progresses.

Ellen Harris and Hunter Miller
Co-Chairs of Associate Pastor Nominating Committee