

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

Important Announcement From Your Pastors

Friends,

In the past few months, we have shared with our Officers, Council members, and staff our intention to make a gradual transition into retirement, probably by the end of 2023. It's time to share with all of you as well.

We are gratified and proud of this church and humbled to have served as Pastors here. We are moving into this transition a little tired. Julie has served for over 31 years and Paul for 17 years. However, we are excited about welcoming new pastoral staff into our loving congregation and exploring the possibilities in the next phase in our life journey.

We have suggested a unique model for this transition. We did not want to retire and put the church in the position of hiring an Interim Minister for an extended period. **Instead, we will continue to work full time while we help shape the plan and support the process of calling a new minister. We will work with leadership to provide stability and continuity during the search process.** By late summer or early fall, we will plan to reduce our hours to part-time. This will enable the church to call a new clergy person and give the three of us a period of overlap to work together.

Following the transition, we will fully retire. We will remain in Greensboro and will certainly see you. We firmly believe in and will respect clear boundaries around supporting and welcoming the new minister. We plan to travel and visit our grandchildren often. No telling what kind of "good trouble" we will get ourselves into!

Tomorrow you will receive a follow up email from the Officers sharing the details we have thus far. We will communicate frequently with you via E-News and in-person gatherings. There will be many opportunities for meaningful conversations and sharing of thoughts.

We are not leaving yet. There will be plenty of time to express our gratitude, but we want to share here what a privilege it has been to walk with you through so many great seasons of ministry.

Please keep this entire transitional process in your prayers as we move forward, seeking God's will for the future of our beloved church.

In Christ and with much love,
Julie and Paul