

March 22, 2023

Dear Messiah members,

As we have shared previously, these past several months have been a time of discernment for both Pastor Bridger and the congregation. Our Discernment Team has led more than 30 planned discussions, shared many hundreds of hours of conversation, and dedicated countless hours of consideration, prayer, and reflection; it is with trust in the Lord and the guidance of the Holy Spirit that we share the following:

- We will now move into the next phase of our transition - the formation of a Call Committee.
- The Call Committee will prayerfully begin a search for Messiah's next Senior Pastor.
- This call will be an "open call" meaning, open to all interested candidates including Pastor Bridger, who continues in his own personal discernment, including whether he will be a candidate.
- Pastor Steve Krebill will continue to serve the congregation as our Interim Pastor alongside Pastor Bridger.

The above was submitted, discussed, and approved by Council on March 13.

We recognize that this announcement may prompt additional questions, as such you'll find an additional Q&A in this mailing.

Most importantly, we celebrate the fact that Pastor Bridger will continue to serve Messiah faithfully in his current role as acting Senior Pastor through this next phase of the transition. Pastor Bridger has shared with us that he remains called by the Holy Spirit to continue in Word and Sacrament ministry here at Messiah and desires to continue in productive ministry which reflects Christ and makes Christ known. We are all blessed by Pastor Bridger's devotion to our congregation and give thanks to God for him and his many gifts.

We ask for your continued trust in this process as together we continue forward. Please continue to pray for Pastor Bridger and for all involved in Messiah's congregation.

In Christ,

Mike Allan, Joe King, Alan Parrott, Sharon Ratvasky, Cathy Zalac