

May 20, 2015

Dear Members of the Congregation,

With a sense of expectation and excitement about the future for our Adult Education and Mission at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, we joyfully announce the nomination of the Reverend Rebecca Kirkpatrick as the new Associate Pastor for these ministries.

On Sunday, May 31, you are encouraged to attend the congregational meeting following the 10:00 a.m. worship service where you will be asked to vote on her candidacy. While we had several days with the Rebecca here in Bryn Mawr, she will not be with us on that day as she is currently out of the country serving in the mission field. She has sent a video introduction instead, which will be linked to the homepage of our website and playing in the Ministries Center both this coming Sunday as well as on the 31st. In the meanwhile, please review the enclosed brochure which highlights Rebecca's biography and career. If elected by the congregation, Rebecca and her family will move to Bryn Mawr and she will begin her ministry among us in worship on July 12.

The APNC convened last summer to begin our search, and to solicit input from the congregation as we drafted the position description or Ministry Information Form (MIF). The MIF was approved by Session last September, then uploaded to the General Assembly's Church Leadership Connection and circulated to friends of the church, other pastors who know Bryn Mawr, seminary presidents and faculty, and persons in similar positions at peer churches. We also received advice and names from many of you in this process, and we thank you for your thoughts and guidance.

We reviewed referrals and self-referrals of 77 candidates, and followed up with telephone conversations with ten potential candidates before narrowing that field with a second round of telephone interviews with some of those. We had four face-to-face conversations, after which we created a short list and had further conversations with our finalists. This was a very strong pool of candidates with varying degrees of experience and diversity of skills and gifts. We felt called to Rebecca based upon her passion for education and mission, length of large-church experience, and her depth and breadth of mission experience. We believe that she will bring wonderful gifts to BMPC and be a great addition to our pastoral staff.

The Presbytery approved our proposed Terms of Call and Rebecca was examined by the Committee on Ministry on Thursday, May 14, when she passed easily. The Committee reported that they were very impressed and would be thrilled to see Rebecca among us.

The members of the APNC thank you for placing your trust in us. Confident that the guiding power of the Holy Spirit was at work among us, we are sure in our selection of Rebecca to serve as our Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Mission.

In Christ,



Eric Swanson, Chairperson
APNC for Adult Education and Mission

Members of the APNC

Becky Brinks
Valerie Craig

David Hastings
Sharna Liggett

Eric Swanson
John Vaughan

Melanie Wilson
Agnes W. Norfleet,
ex officio