



Grace Presbyterian Church

Transforming lives through God's grace

Sunday, March 19, 2023

The following is an update from the Minister Resource Committee about Grace's ministers. Following God's leading, both Rev. Maren and Rev. Christian will be preaching for the call at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Calgary at the end of this month (March 26). After preaching for the call, the congregation of Westminster will need to vote to determine whether or not they will sustain the call. If sustained, the presbytery will need to meet to approve the call. We will continue to be in conversation around timing for when a possible transition may begin.

Rev. Jake will start his 35-week parental leave in July. We all wish Jake and Kate every blessing as they look forward to this special time as a family.

Of course, these changes mean there may be several intermediate needs for ministry and pastoral care at Grace in the upcoming months. The well-being of our members and adherents and the continuation of meaningful worship, care and ministry is the chief concern of our ministers, Session and the Minister Resource Committee.

In order to address these needs, the Minister Resource Committee is presently speaking with a very suitable minister who is open to a temporary position starting in September, for up to one year. We will be having the same conversation with two other ministers as we look at our overall needs for the immediate future.

Pulpit supply has been secured for May and June on an as-needed basis. The Minister Resource Committee is also exploring full-time summer coverage with two other experienced ministers. God has opened these doors very quickly and there is gratitude for these doors being opened. In addition to our worship, we are actively taking steps to ensure our ministry of care continues without interruption. We will have supports in place so we can continue to be there for pastoral care, hospital visits, bereavement support and homebound visitation.

The Minister Resource Committee will let the congregation know as soon as we have firm commitments and details for the provisional ministers willing to help fill Grace's intermediate needs. Please also keep in mind and in prayer the on-going Lead Minister search. Our Interim Moderator and the Lead Minister Search Committee are continuing their work to help call a lead minister to Grace. Between now and June, we are still blessed to have the leadership of Revs. Jake, Maren, and Christian and Children & Youth Coordinator, Kate. As they look forward to new phases in life and ministry, let's all be sure to support them and wish them well.

We have many strengths in our congregation that stem from a deep-rooted faith in our Lord: as we walk our Lenten journey of discernment and reflection, may we find reassurance in God's presence and



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may we lift our voices to Jesus in gratitude for the ways we have been blessed, in faith for the future that is unfolding, and in praise for God's continuing guidance.

Blessings,

Minister Resource Committee

Mary Rozsa de Coquet, (Session Liaison), Rev. Greg Smith (Interim Moderator), Len Wolstenholme, and Jim Campbel