

THE NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

July 18, 2007

Dear Friends and Members of NPC,

By now you should have received a letter that we sent out to the congregation last week. We had hoped the letter might reach you before Sunday, but, alas, I am very sorry that was not the case. The letter describes some important decisions made by our Session at the end of June and are now being implemented. If you have not received a copy of the letter yet, you'll find a link on our home page: www.NationalPres.org.

At our town hall meeting and congregational meeting on Sunday we were able to talk about the importance of and impact of these decisions regarding our budget. I, along with our elders, trustees, deacons and staff, am in much pain over these decisions. All of us connected to NPC will be affected by these changes in budget and staff.

At the congregational meeting on Sunday, the Session's request to the congregation regarding the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee recommended: 1) that the search for an associate pastor be suspended, and 2) that the position of Associate Pastor for Congregational Care be closed. Due to the lack of time for the members to consider the recommendation before Sunday, the motion was tabled to a future congregational meeting date, which will probably be in September. We will let you know the exact date after the session votes on the call to that meeting.

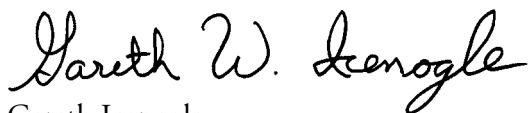
There was some confusion at the congregational meeting about what this tabling of the motion would accomplish. Some thought this would postpone session's decision to terminate our relationship with Jean Coyle as Temporary Associate Pastor. However, these are separate decisions made by different bodies. The congregation has authority to search for and call a permanent associate pastor, but the session has authority to seek and call a temporary or interim pastor. The session has made its decision about ending the Temporary Associate Position. The tabled motion is about what the congregation will do with the permanent associate search and position.

If you have questions or comments about the letter or about this email, please address them to the Clerk of Session, Janice Feather, NPCClerk@cox.net, who will forward them to session.

We are saddened by the need to make these budget cuts and to end our professional relationships with these fine servants of God. We have made these decisions in sustained prayer and community. We ask for your prayers as we move toward a balanced budget and reorganize our staff responsibilities.

Lord Jesus Christ, may you guide us through these difficult decisions and days by the power of your Holy Spirit in the Love of God the Father.

In His Service,



Gareth Icenogle
Senior Pastor