



To the Zionsville Presbyterian Church Family:

The Committee on Ministry is charged by our Book of Order to be responsible for the following: *The Committee on Ministry shall serve as an instrument of presbytery for promoting the peace and harmony of the churches, especially in regard to matters arising out of the relations between ministers and churches. Its purpose shall be to mediate differences and reconcile persons, to the end that the difficulties may be corrected by the Session of the church if possible, that the welfare of the particular church may be strengthened, that the unity of the body of Christ may be made manifest.* (G-11.0502i)

As part of the recent discernment of the call for the Rev. Glenn McDonald to serve as the Senior Pastor of Zionsville Presbyterian Church, the Committee on Ministry, serving as the representative of the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley, affirms the continuation of that call.

In reaching this conclusion, however, the Committee on Ministry believes that there are significant issues at work in the ZPC faith community that have disrupted the peace, unity and purity of the congregation. Those issues will not be dealt with either easily or quickly, but we believe that in order to strengthen the welfare of this particular congregation and to make manifest the body of Christ, that all participants should proceed into a future together that includes the following:

- *A season of prayer involving Rev. McDonald but prior to his return to full-time service within the Zionsville Presbyterian Church and during which Rev. McDonald will not preach, followed by a service of wholeness and healing, repentance and reconciliation as the culmination of the season of prayer*
- *An ongoing process that seeks to work toward reconciliation within the congregation and which encourages all participants to hold one another accountable and to address matters of concern in timely and constructive ways*
- *Supporting Rev. McDonald in an ongoing relationship with a therapist*
- *Encouraging the pastoral staff and the Session together to design a preaching schedule that intentionally involves each pastor on the staff on a regular basis*
- *Closer partnership with the presbytery through the appointment of a liaison from the Committee on Ministry to attend Session and congregational meetings on a regular basis, and regular meetings between Rev. McDonald and the Executive Presbyter and/or the Committee on Ministry*
- *Intentional planning involving Rev. McDonald, the church officers, the congregation and the Committee on Ministry that begins to address issues around the departure of the founding pastor of ZPC with a target date for his departure to occur within no less than 2 years and no more than 5 years.*

The Committee on Ministry realizes that there is much that ZPC has accomplished for the Kingdom of God. It is our prayer that God may continue to work through His servants during this time and beyond it in a way that glorifies God alone.

With Grace and Peace...

Rev. Hal Thomas, Committee on Ministry moderator
Rev. Alan Thames, Executive Presbyter