

Dear Church Family,

It is with mixed emotions that we share this letter with you. While saying farewell to Pastor Erin, Dan, Will, Noah, Jake, and Anna Kate brings us sadness, we find immense joy in celebrating their journey and anticipating the exciting ways God will work through them as they embark on a new chapter of ministry in Oregon. We will forever be grateful that God called the Taylor family to Alma, just as we will continue to give thanks to God for Pastor Erin's leadership to our congregation. We are also grateful that Pastor Erin will continue to serve as our Senior Pastor until May 23rd, thus easing this transition period.

The Governing Board met on January 18th to begin the process of forming a Pulpit Committee, as called for in our bylaws. It is the responsibility of the Pulpit Committee to conduct the search for our next Senior Pastor. The Board will continue this work on January 22nd, with the aim of having the Pulpit Committee fully formed and ready to begin their search by the end of January. Once formed, we will share the names of the committee members. Throughout this process the Board will share updates with the congregation regarding their progress.

Change brings opportunities, and our congregation finds ourselves situated in a notably strong position today due to the strong leadership and dedicated efforts of Pastor Erin for the last five years. We believe that God has extraordinary plans for the future of our church. Let us approach this transition with anticipation and faith, trusting that God is faithful and will lead us to the person He has chosen for this important role. Please pray for Pastor Erin, Dan, and their family, and the Pulpit Committee, as we enter this season of change and opportunity. Also, begin praying for the person that God is calling to lead as our next Senior Pastor.

Sincerely,

The Governing Board

Kristina Eggenberger

Bill Hirschman

James Larson

Ann Brandon (non-resident)

Garrett Whitmore

Brenda Shaw

Pat Benson

Bill Shepard (non-resident)

Mark Kemler

Aaron Hubble

Sarah Doherty