

24 July 2020

Good News from the Congregation Council President

We have good news to share with the Congregation. The Council, with the guidance of the Call Committee and the Bishop's office, voted unanimously to nominate Pastor Adrienne Meier to be our next Pastor. Both the Council and the Call Committee are very excited about Pastor Adrienne.

Over the next few weeks, the Congregation and the children will have an opportunity to meet Pastor Adrienne and to get to know her. Under normal circumstances, we would invite her to join us for worship and a reception. But, as we know, there is nothing "normal" about our present circumstances. So, we will be offering 3 ways for the congregation to get to know Pastor Adrienne.

1. Pastor Adrienne will participate in some of our "patchwork" services so that you can see her "in action".
2. Two "open house" style Zoom meetings will be scheduled where congregation members can drop in and be part of a conversation with Pastor Adrienne. This will give congregation members the opportunity to ask questions of Pastor Adrienne. Those Zoom meetings will be recorded and available to any congregation member who wishes to view them. We will announce the date(s) and time(s) of those Zoom meetings later.
3. If a congregation member is unable to find reliable technology, Pastor Adrienne has graciously agreed to have an in-person telephone call with that congregation member. Please let the office know if you would like for a telephone call to be arranged. Finally, we are also considering whether to host in-person meetings with Pastor Adrienne. Of course, the logistics of such meetings would require very small group gatherings (less than 10) and probably in an outdoor location. If you would be interested in such a meeting, please let the Church office know no later than July 30th. As the planning of in-person gatherings is very difficult in present times, these meetings would be intended for those persons who do not have reliable access to technology for the Zoom meetings.

We will soon set a date for the congregational meeting that is required for the congregation to elect Pastor Adrienne.

During the interview process, Pastor Adrienne shared some materials and resources with us. I am providing links to those materials so that any congregation member may view them:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/p3wxgbalem2hxnj/AADGrelGmEWvg4zvu9mmYlsBa?dl=0>

Pastor Adrienne also provided a link to her former congregation's Facebook page, which has some of her work: <https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelpa/>

The following is the biography that Pastor Adrienne shared with us:

The Rev. Adrienne Meier has served congregations in Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. After five years on the East Coast, she is eager to return to her Hoosier roots.

Pr. Adrienne is a graduate of Capital University in Columbus, Ohio where she double majored in Literature and Religious Studies, and the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. While an undergraduate student, she worked for an assisted living home which specialized in caring for adults with dementia. While a seminary student, she worked the very glamorous job of server at a sit-down hamburger chain.

Pr. Adrienne is married to Dr. Matt Meier, Director of the Speaking and Listening Center and Associate Professor of Communication and Theater at DePauw University in Greencastle. Matt studies rhetoric, specifically the intersection of comedy and democracy. Together they are parents to Hope and Lucy, who are six and three. They also gave birth to another daughter, Evelyn, who was born still.

Pr. Adrienne loves to read just about anything. She is an avid knitter and vegetable gardener. She plays the piano and loves to sing folk music. She

Praise be to God!!

Dean Arnold, President, Congregation Council