

May 15 Call to Ministry Voting Information **From Jackie Lenth and David Elmes for the Parish Committee**

We hope you will all meet Reverend Kit Novotny and Reverend Nate Klug in person during the week of May 8-15 at one or more of the many scheduled gatherings. The congregational vote to approve the candidates will be on May 15th at a meeting immediately following the regular Sunday worship service. Only people on the membership roll are eligible to vote (you can login to the FPL website to view the current membership list).

On May 15th, following the regular worship service, there will be a Special Congregational Meeting. With restrictions on in-person gatherings, we are offering in person and virtual voting so that we all can take part and celebrate in this joyful event!

In Person Voting: For those who have signed up to attend the worship service that day, including overflow in the Stearns room and maybe even overflow on the lawn (if the weather permits), you will stay after the service for this meeting and fill out your anonymous ballot in person.

Virtual Voting: For those Zooming on May 15th, each person should login on a separate electronic device. You will be invited into the chat room after the worship service where you will find a Special Meeting Zoom link. Clicking on this link will bring you into a waiting room to be checked in as a member. Check in may take ten or twenty minutes (have your video on and your name displayed to expedite the process). Once everyone is out of the waiting room and into the “virtual” meeting room, the ballot comes up on your screen and you vote. (If you are not familiar with Zoom voting, there will be a practice session on May 8th after the service. Don’t worry, it’s fun and easy.)

Absentee Early Voting: If you are unable to attend either in person or on Zoom on May 15th, contact Jackie Lenth jackielenth@gmail.com about voting early and we will arrange to have a ballot available in the Administrator’s office at the end of Candidates Week. This vote will be provisional, pending approval of absentee voting at the Special Meeting. If you have questions of any kind just call Jackie Lenth or David Elmes.

Vote Requirements: Per our bylaws, 75% of those voting must vote “yes” to call a minister. Once the results of the vote are known, the candidates decide whether to accept the call. Most ministers will not accept a call with less than 90% positive votes. If you have questions or concerns about the candidates, we urge you to contact the Search Committee as soon as possible, so that they have every opportunity to answer your questions or address your concerns. Given the consequences, a no vote should only be made with great gravity, and not out of lack of knowledge or confusion.

Assuming a successful Call and fair weather, we will celebrate with a reception on the lawn following the vote. All are invited to attend!