

Greetings to you all!

You might remember that at our last presbytery meeting in June, our Vice Moderator, Madelynne Lindsey gave a rousing report from our leader search team. The hope at that time was to present a candidate to the presbytery at a special meeting in the fall. We are so grateful for the discernment and work of our search team who have been diligently working for over a year.

Since our presbytery meeting several signs of the Spirit have come to our attention. Right now a working group from all the presbyteries in New Jersey are meeting to discuss the future of the presbyteries in New Jersey. You might remember us discussing the possibility of redrawing our lines of mission and ministry back at our December meeting. That group is poised to make recommendations to the Synod in the fall.

When we began our search for a leader we anticipated that our new leader would become part of those conversations and help guide into the future. It has now become apparent that our future possibilities might be closer than we originally thought. Which means that our next presbytery leader may be leading a newly formed presbytery.

After considering these options and our candidates the leader search team decided to suspend the search. They felt that it would not be optimal or faithful to bring in a new leader when the job description and responsibilities would change. Therefore, our Vice Moderator, Madelynne Lindsey informed the personnel team that they will not be extending a call to any candidate. Upon the recommendation of the Vision Team the personnel committee will pursue a continued contract with Rev. Leslie Dobbs-Allsopp. She is currently discerning her continuation.

In the Joy of Christ,
Erin Hayes-Cook- Moderator

We do not consider the work and discernment that the leader search team finished to be in vain. For they helped us a presbytery discern what God might be asking us to do right now. Your continued support and prayers for and with this presbytery are a vital part of who we are. And we know that talking it through might be helpful. Please look for a few more “meet ups” to show up in August or September so that we might fellowship and share more with each other.