

Dear Reverend Abel Lamar and Members of the Staff Committee,

When I began at Government Street Presbyterian Church a little over 3 years ago, I was thrilled to begin my ministry as Associate Pastor. I have learned many valuable lessons and have grown not only in my ministry but in my faith as well.

In my tenure at GSPC, I have witnessed the way that the Spirit is always at work both in my life and in the life of the church. Sometimes, the Spirit surprises us and calls us to places that we do not expect.

Returning from my maternity leave has been difficult. As much as I have loved this church and its people, I have a new love greater than any love I have ever experienced: the love for my daughter, sweet Elsie Grace Hutson.

I have prayed and listened for that still, small voice in my head. Time and time again over the past few months, I have heard it say, "I am calling you home."

When I began at Government Street, I remember saying that in many ways I felt like God was calling me "home." GSPC felt like home to me in such a short amount of time, and I also was coming home to where my family resides along the gulf coast.

The truth is that God is still calling me home, but this time it is to a different home. After much prayer and consideration, I feel deep in my heart that God is calling me home to my family where I can fully focus on being the best mom that I can be to my daughter.

When I first began to feel a call to ministry all those years ago when I was a youth myself, my youth minister, Patrick Laney quoted Frederick Buechner to me saying, "The place that God calls you is where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." Right now, that call is for me to be a mother.

Please accept this as my official letter of resignation with my last day with you being Sunday, August 27.

Peace of Christ Be With You Always,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alexandra Hutson".

Reverend Alexandra Hutson