



June 23, 2022

Dear Walnut Hill Church Community:

As we say our farewells to Mike upon his retirement after 20 years of service to Walnut Hill Church, there is an important update to share with the congregation regarding the next steps in this transition. With Mike's blessing, we are happy to announce that the Transition Committee has recommended, and the Vestry has approved, the appointment of the **Reverend Lisa Eye** as the Interim Pastor beginning **August 1, 2022**.



As you will recall, upon learning of Mike's retirement, the Vestry formed a Transition Committee to identify and address those things needed to get us to June 30th. That Committee, led by Lyle Hanna, includes Scott Steede, Natalie Watt, Esther Livingston, Gip Downing, Whitney Miller and John Wharton. Among the first actions of the Committee was the determination to focus on obtaining a "full time" interim Pastor to carry us through the period of a search for a new Pastor. Relying on traditional pulpit supply during this transition period was deemed insufficient given Walnut Hill's daily needs.

We are now excited to introduce you to Reverend Lisa Eye. She comes to Walnut Hill after serving Corbin Presbyterian Church since 2014. She has also been serving as the Moderator of Transylvania Presbytery's Pastoral Transitions Commission.

Raised in Virginia and nurtured in the education, music and outreach ministries of The Presbyterian Church of Fredericksburg, Lisa sensed a call to ministry by the time she finished high school. She spent five summers counseling and directing Presbyterian camps just to be sure! After graduating from the University of Richmond in 1985, she served on the staff of the former Hanover Presbytery before enrolling at the Presbyterian School of Christian Education (now Union Presbyterian Seminary) in Richmond, VA, where she earned a Master of Arts in Christian Education in 1990. She is a Certified Christian Educator and spent ten years as a Director of Christian Education in Kentucky and Tennessee, and then as a part-time DCE while attending Columbia Theological

Seminary in Decatur, GA. After graduating with a Master of Divinity in 2002 and ordination by Mid-Kentucky Presbytery, she has served as an Associate Pastor, Interim Pastor, and Pastor of churches in Louisville, Danville and Lancaster, Kentucky and as a counselor for pregnant and parenting teens at a Christian-based residential treatment center.

Lisa has a special interest in congregational transition and mediation and has received additional training in these areas from the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center in IL and the Transitional Ministry Network. Lisa is something of a meeting “geek” who actually enjoys presbytery and General Assembly meetings and the connections made within the diverse Presbyterian family and across the wider ecumenical community of faith. She can’t think of a greater privilege than combining her love for worship, pastoral care, and nurturing disciples as a pastor. Lisa enjoys reading novels, singing with choral groups, traveling to new places, chocolate, and keeping up with her large extended family.

As you can see, Lisa’s experience positions her to serve us well as we continue to search for a permanent Pastor of Walnut Hill Church over the coming months. We plan to provide an opportunity for you to “meet and greet” her in the weeks to come.

In the meantime, thanks for your support and patience in this process. There is still much to be accomplished in the search process for a Pastor, but for now we are pleased to be able to have Lisa onboard to provide worship, faith development, pastoral care, and spiritual guidance as we prepare for the new pastoral leadership of Walnut Hill Church.

Sincerely,



Beth Hilliard
Sr. Warden



Lyle S. Hanna
Transition Committee Chair