

Walking Together through the Transition Process

“...for the sake of the mission and ministry of the Church.”

On October 6, we will welcome Deacon Connie Schmucker, Assistant to Bishop for Leadership, of the Florida Bahamas Synod back to Peace Church. Deacon Connie served at Peace as Director of Christian Education and Community Outreach 2008-2011. The “Great Recession” resulted in the difficult decision to downsize staff and end the position. The Spirit led her to work with Bishops Schaeffer and Suarez with congregations in pastoral transitions.

Deacon Connie will work with the leaders and faithful of Peace in the succession planning of Pr. Walter’s retirement and calling a new pastor. Following worship on October 6, she will lead a forum “Walking Together through the Transition Process.” One important element of the forum will be how a Call Committee will be formed at Peace. Please plan to attend, or view the forum by LiveStream, that you may be fully informed. Following the forum, and until October 15th, you will have the opportunity to nominate voting members of our congregation to serve on the Call Committee. Material and videos related to the transition process will be posted on our website www.peaceftmyers.com.

Mark your calendars for these important upcoming events of the Transition Process:

October 17 from 10 to Noon: Walking with Jesus to Emmaus: A Look at our History. We will recall the history of Peace so that we may discern what path God is lighting for the role of the new shepherd to lead the congregation into the future.

October 24 from 10 AM to 2 PM: Retreat with Sr. Michelle Collins. Our day will begin with a quick snapshot of the demographics and ministry interests of this area. Sr. Michelle will review the Vision, Mission and Values workshop she led in August and assist in articulating those characteristics of Peace. We will conclude with a discussion of what path God is lighting for the role of the new shepherd to lead the congregation into the future.

October 27 Reformation Sunday: Congregational meeting following the 10 AM Eucharist to elect the Call Committee.

November 3 Festival of All Saints at the 8 and 10 AM Eucharists: Pr. Gary LaCroix, Dean of the Caloosa Conference, will commission the Call Committee.

Congregational Retreat Thursday, October 24, 10am—2pm

Sister Michelle, ELCA Deacon, Director of Discipleship and Communications with the Florida-Bahamas Synod, is returning to continue her work with us clarifying our mission and vision. All are welcome and encouraged to attend this interactive workshop, even if you were not able to be at the first meeting in August. Our discussion this day will help to shape the path for the role of Peace’s next pastor. This is a chance to be involved in the discussion. Please plan on attending.

- We will review the August workshop
- Continue the conversation of the list of Peace’s values we identified
- Everyone’s input is valued and needed
- Where is God’s dream for Peace taking us?!

Loving God, we hold all in prayer as we travel the journey of this transition process. Help us to remember that it is your spirit that leads us. In Jesus name, Amen