

Clerk's Message for the Congregation of St. Andrew's: Review of Ministry Team

As communicated previously by me as Clerk of St. Andrew's Session in late March 2021, and in accordance with the practice of Presbytery, Presbytery recently completed a visitation to St. Andrew's. The Visitation Team identified and affirmed many positive aspects of our ministry together which were described in my message in March. The Visitation Team decided that, for the continued health and vitality of St. Andrew's, there were three key areas requiring further exploration by a subsequent team of Presbytery. These included the health and vocational contentment of Dr. Tim and Rev. Jared; the operations, role, and vision of the Creek Ministry; and the commitment to calling an Associate Minister, Growth & Care.

A separate Presbytery Team has affirmed the views of the Visitation Team, and a Review of Ministry Team will now be formed by Presbytery to work with St. Andrew's in the areas noted for at least the next four months. The Terms of Reference for the Review of Ministry Team, as well as its composition, are being determined next week by Presbytery with input from Dr. Tim and Rev. Jared, and St. Andrew's Ministry, Resource and Accountability Team. Session is pleased the Presbytery Review of Ministry Team will begin its supportive work immediately and will regularly keep Session informed of its progress. Session will in turn inform the congregation.

As we all know, COVID 19 has affected many people in a variety of ways, adding new stressors and requiring us to rethink past ways of fulfilling goals and work plans. Our Ministers are not exempt from the stresses of COVID. The health of our Ministers and our ministry together at St. Andrew's is vital to ensuring we continue **Growing. LIFE. Together. with God** well into the future.

Please know that the Ministry Review is pastoral, and the goal is to make St. Andrew's even stronger. Your prayers of support for our Ministers, the Presbytery Review of Ministry Team, and each other, are greatly appreciated as we faithfully follow God's leading, and accept Presbytery's guidance as we move through the pandemic to a place of hope and possibility.

Grace and peace,
Debby Dorcas
Clerk of Session