

# THE NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 16, 2011

Dear Friends,

The Interim Pastor Search Committee has been functioning since the summer of 2008. Initially their work resulted in the presence with us of Earl Palmer as “Preaching Pastor in Residence.” On Earl’s departure last summer, an arrangement was worked out with John Huffman to preach on a number of Sundays. Last fall the Interim Search Committee determined that it would be best to find an Interim Pastor who would be here with us fulltime and serve as Head of Staff and Moderator of Session.


It is with great pleasure and anticipation that the Session and the Interim Pastor Search Committee announce the selection of the Reverend Patrick J. Willson as our Interim Pastor. His first day in the office will be Tuesday, March 15th. His first Sunday leading worship and preaching will be March 20th.

Rev. Willson is currently Pastor of Williamsburg Presbyterian Church in Williamsburg, Virginia, a church of about 1400. He is married to Nancy Weaver Willson, who has her own business as a consultant fundraising for public institutions. They have two grown daughters: Robyn, an attorney in Florida, and Polly who works for a website firm in London.

Rev. Willson has 35 years of experience in the ministry, 25 of those as Pastor and Head of Staff, 15 of those years in churches of more than 1,000. As a Princeton professor put it, he has a deep sense of vocation and “a passion for preaching.” He regularly lectures in courses on Scripture and preaching. We will provide more information closer to the time of his arrival here. Meanwhile, his sermons are available on the Williamsburg Presbyterian website, [www.williamsburgpresbyterianchurch.org](http://www.williamsburgpresbyterianchurch.org).

Reverend Willson has agreed to serve as our Interim Pastor while the Pastor Nominating Committee, led by its Chairman Matt Teems, finds a permanent Pastor for NPC. That Committee is now fully engaged, receiving names, evaluating materials, and talking to candidates. They continue to ask for your prayers and support.

In Christ,



Kathryn B. Morgan, Chair  
Interim Pastor Search Committee



Bruce W. Boyd  
Clerk of Session