

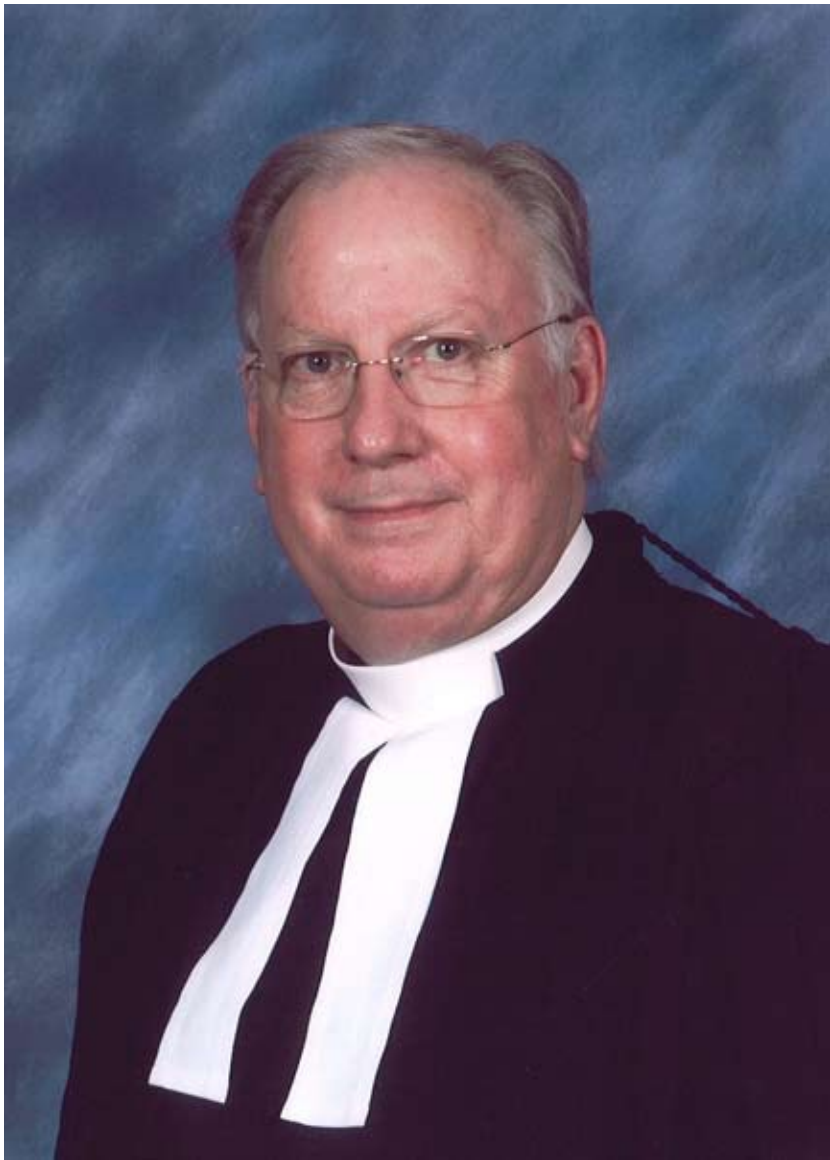
The Session and Interim Pastor Search Committee
of
The National Presbyterian Church

is honored to present to the congregation
with praise and thanksgiving to our Lord Jesus Christ
its selection of

The Reverend Patrick J. Willson
as Interim Senior Pastor



March 15, 2011



Reverend Patrick J. Willson

It is with great pleasure and anticipation that the Session and the Interim Pastor Search Committee present Reverend Patrick J. Willson as Interim Senior Pastor. Pastor Willson and his wife, Nancy, come to us from Williamsburg, Virginia, where he has been pastor of Williamsburg Presbyterian Church since 1998.

Patrick Willson's higher education began at the University of Texas where he studied international relations, receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1967 and continuing with graduate work in 1967 and 1968 when he entered Columbia Theological Seminary. He says he was searching "to learn about God. I am still learning." In 1971 he received the degree of Master of Divinity with Distinction and continued on with graduate work in theology from 1972-74. In 1975, he began his full-time pastoral work.

During 35 years of experience in pastoral ministry, 25 years have been as Pastor and Head of Staff, and 15 of those years have been in churches of more than 1,000 congregants. A Princeton Seminary professor, in whose class Pastor Willson has often lectured, remarked: he "has a real passion for preaching." His sermons stay close to Scripture, our Reformed theological heritage, and human experience. More than 100 of his sermons can be found in print, appearing regularly in *Biblical Preaching Journal*, *Lectionary Homiletics*, *Preaching: Word and Witness*, *Pulpit Digest*, and *Preaching Great Texts*.

Pastor Willson also loves to teach. His adult Bible study lessons can be found in four different editions of the Abingdon Press *New International Lesson Annual*. He has also lectured on preaching and exegesis both to seminary students and at workshops for ministers. He has been invited to be the preacher for the 2012 Engle Institute of Preaching at Princeton Theological Seminary.

He is a voracious reader with multiple books going at any time. For years he has begun his mornings with *The New York Times*. He also loves art museums, the theater, and cooking with his family.

Pastor Willson's wife, Nancy Weaver Willson, works as a consultant with not-for-profit organizations as principal of her firm, Willson Advancement Partners. With nearly 30 years of development experience, she offers skills in gift planning, major gifts, campaigning, and non-profit management. Nancy holds a Bachelor of Arts from Agnes Scott College, Atlanta, and Master's in Business Administration in management and marketing from the University of Texas, Permian Basin. Her hobbies include travel, needlework, reading, flower arranging and orchid cultivation, and most importantly, her grandsons, Willson (age 7) and Davis (age 6).

The Willsons have two daughters. The elder, Robyn Willson Hattaway, practices law near Cape Canaveral, Florida, where her husband is a radiologist. They have two sons. The younger daughter, Polly, fell in love with England while studying at Oxford. She now lives in London where she works with a website firm.

Pastor Willson's first Sunday at NPC is March 20, 2011, when he will preach in all three worship services.