

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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For Christ in the Heart of Charlotte

*PNC Minute for Mission*

*September 25, 2011*

Good morning.

On September 1st, the Pastor Nominating Committee, with approval from the Session and the local presbytery, posted the Church Information Form (or the CIF) to the PC U.S.A. website, which began the official external search process for our new senior minister.

This step marked the completion of a five-month internally focused self study based in scripture, prayer, and listening.

Since it has been 27 years since we have called a new senior minister and six years since we completed our last long-range plan, the completion of the CIF has special significance. It is more than just a job posting. It is a culmination of your survey responses, your group discussions, 1 on1 conversations, your letters, your support, and most importantly your prayers. It represents our vision of this church – past, present, and future and our desires for our next senior minister.

A letter will be coming out soon detailing the entire CIF and survey results, but today I wanted to share with you the characteristics and qualifications of the next senior minister as outlined in the CIF:

First Presbyterian seeks an ordained pastor who:

- Is a Christian who is rooted in scripture and who believes in the tenets of the faith as articulated in the creeds and confessions in the Book of Confessions of the PC(USA.)
- Is a person of prayer.
- Leads with a prophetic voice that desires to exalt Christ, his name, and his word above all things.
- Preaches the Word of God faithfully and boldly; with authority and confidence based on deep Biblical and theological knowledge.
- Has an open and collaborative communication style that encourages a diverse membership to engage in dialogue on difficult issues.
- Is engaging, approachable and energetic, and leads with vision, a shepherd's heart and a sense of humor.
- Has experience with and a love for traditional worship while being willing to explore and incorporate other worship styles as an extension of the church's ministry, in the spirit of the Reformed tradition.

To date, we have received many names of potential candidates and we expect to receive many more. If you have any recommendations, we encourage you to send us an email through the transition section of the church website or contact any of us directly.

In 1st Samuel 16, the Lord said to Samuel in reference to anointing the next king “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

We humbly ask for your continued prayers as we begin to look for our next senior minister.

Thank you.

Mike Ek  
PNC