

Deacons' Update  
August 27, 2017

We are committed to updating the congregation on a regular basis, and this is a start. To those of you who have reached out to the Deacons or come to the recent Sunday listening sessions, thank you! We have appreciated hearing from you, and we are compiling and using your suggestions as we plan for the upcoming September transition.

While our Senior Minister's departure at the end of this month has caused some confusion and pain, we are grateful that our remaining clergy, Jeff Sartain, Paula Northwood and Beth Faeth, are willing to step up during an initial interim 90-day period, with preaching and assisting the congregation in a transitional healing process.

The Deacons met on Wednesday, August 23, to discuss next steps in planning for a thoughtful, healing and inclusive way to develop a transition plan for the congregation beyond the initial 90 day interim period. We will be working closely with the Leadership Council and, again, appreciate your input on how to move forward together. Here is a concrete way for you to participate in this information gathering stage.

On Plymouth's website, we state that we are a progressive faith community grounded in the Christian tradition, with respect for diverse understandings of God. As we enter this initial interim period, we would appreciate hearing your thoughts on the future of Plymouth. In particular, please reflect on the following questions, and send your thoughts to us at the following email [deacons@plymouth.org](mailto:deacons@plymouth.org) or leave at the church office:

1. What is so essential at Plymouth that it needs to be kept?
2. What is so problematic at Plymouth that it needs to be addressed?
3. What are three things that the congregation should be doing going forward?

Thank you!