

SOMA'S PASTORAL TRANSITION UPDATE

March 2019

Know that as our church goes through this time of transition, the Session & Leadership Team is committed to praying with and for our worshipping body and to communicating regularly on the process as it unfolds. To that end, we wanted to share the first of these monthly written updates to keep us all on the same page moving forward.

At our Session/Leadership Team meeting on February 25th, we determined that we would be requesting a waiver from our Presbytery (our denomination's regional body of churches, to which SOMA is connected and accountable) to forgo bringing in a Transitional Pastor. Because of the healthy place our church is in (by God's grace!) the Presbytery granted that waiver – this means we can begin the process of laying a foundation for our next pastor search.

Over the next several months, in order to prepare for that search, our worshipping body will be asked to provide input toward the creation of two important documents. One is a *Church Profile*, which will describe what SOMA is about to prospective candidates. The other is a *Pastor Profile*, which will give candidates the opportunity to see what kind of pastor we believe would be a good fit for our church and city. While both of these profiles will be useful for potential pastors considering SOMA, our body will no doubt benefit from the process of self-reflection as we make them together.

There are a couple different ways to offer your input for these profiles:

1. There are surveys you can fill out and submit from now through the end of April, on paper at The Well and online via the weekly email and our church website (www.thesomagathering.org).
2. We'll be hosting two SOMA Conversations, which you are invited to attend and bring your prayerful ideas. These will be on Sunday, March 24th and Sunday, April 28th (specific times TBD)

Please feel free to get in touch with anyone on the Session & Leadership Team for more info or simply to share your thoughts/feelings as we prepare for the next season of life together as a church.

In Christ,

Mike & Dani Brown, Jerryn Carson, Akil Chaney, Jerome Cousar, Marc de Jeu, Anthony Regan, Dave Slebodnik, Dave & Karen Swartzwelder

