

COM REPORT REGARDING THE RESTORATION PROCESS FOR THE REV. CHRIS GARRISON AND THE RECONCILIATION PROCESS AMONG THE VARIOUS PARTIES INVOLVED

The Rev. Garrison continues to meet with Dr. David Olsen of the Samaritan Counseling Center in order to process the events of two years ago and to discern his future. These are weekly meetings that have occurred uninterrupted since August of 2014. The COM team (TE David Bennett, RE Laura Rogers and TE Shannan Vance Ocampo) most recently met with Rev. Garrison on September 26th and receive quarterly progress and accountability updates from Dr. Olsen.

As part of its covenant to provide opportunities for reconciliation among the affected parties, the COM team has facilitated conversations between the Rev. Garrison and two of the members of the Brunswick congregation in order to provide clarity, openness and connection between them. A member of the congregation sought COM's input and that meeting occurred in July 27, 2016 and was attended by TE Shannan Vance-Ocampo and TE Scott DeBlock at the request of the COM team. A conversation between the Rev. Garrison and the Rev. Elizabeth Shen O'Connor was held on November 2, 2016 which was facilitated by the Rev. Dr. Jim Fenimore of the Samaritan Center. COM has met with one former member of the Brunswick staff in order to listen to and provide pastoral care for this person. No other contacts have been made to our team by any staff members current or former of the Brunswick Church. The labor attorney who worked for the Presbytery and the Brunswick Church in 2014 has advised that there be no structured conversations between the Rev. Garrison and former members of the Brunswick staff who have signed severance agreements.

COM communicated in April with the Brunswick staff and session that members who wish to address concerns regarding the events at the church are invited to contact COM and the committee will be glad to respond. Thus far there have been no other requests beyond what is listed above.

COM as a whole met with The Rev. Garrison on November 2 in order to check in with him and hear of his progress.

At this point the COM team feels that they have exhausted every avenue possible in our charge. There are items that are not fully completed to all person's satisfaction, but we have worked as hard and diligently as possible with the constraints that we have on our work. At this point we feel that the rest of the work of reconciliation/resolution can only be accomplished by the work of the Holy Spirit.

We would suggest that Rev. Garrison remain in close contact with the COM or its successor team through the co-chairs on his future employment plans and on healthy boundaries between his role as a member-at-large in the Presbytery and the coaching/consulting practice that he is seeking. We further recommend that the COM or its successor team pay close attention pastorally to the relationships between Rev. Garrison and the new pastoral leadership at Brunswick Church since both will be members of the Presbytery and presumably living in proximity to each other. Both parties will need equal support of the COM.

Respectfully submitted,

RE Laura Rogers, TE David Bennett, TE Shannan Vance-Ocampo

Approved by the COM November 2, 2016