



FAIRLINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Welcoming. Nurturing. Serving.

February 15, 2019

Fairlington UMC Community:

In June, our lead pastor Mary Beth Blinn will be retiring and a new lead pastor will be joining us. The Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) has met with the District Superintendent to discuss the mission and vision of the church. The Bishop and cabinet were initially expected to meet in January to begin the appointment process. However, due to continuing health complications following surgery, the Bishop has had to postpone this process until March. The SPRC hopes to be able to share the name of our new pastor in April. The new pastor will start the last Sunday in June.

Please pray for our Bishop and church leaders. As always, please feel free to reach out with any questions about the process to Ashley Moore, amacwilson@gmail.com

Here's additional information about our clergy appointment process:

In the United Methodist Church, it is the bishop's job to **send** pastors and the congregation's responsibility to receive. The church has a system of itinerancy whereby all pastors are appointed to 1 year terms, which can be renewed. The SPRC does not interview potential pastors. Our role is consultative only.

For details on the appointment process from the Book of Discipline, you can check <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/para-425-appointment-making>.

Additionally, Bishop Sharma Lewis has made a video to further detail the process for SPRC: <https://vimeo.com/303352860>

Sincerely,

Ashley Moore
Staff Parish Relations Committee Chairperson