

# **Our New Pastor**



## **GETTING STARTED**

October 10, 2021 – Congregation authorized Session to appoint the DPNC

October 18, 2021 – Session met to determine the DPNC

October 20, 2021 – Final DPNC member added

October 24, 2021 – DPNC commissioned at Sunday service

October 25, 2021 – First meeting



***Members of the  
Designated Pastor Nominating Committee  
(DPNC)***

Jay Lough – Chair

Lois Wenzell – Deputy Chair

Jim Baer – Secretary/Editor

Gisele Onga Nana – Member

Lindsey Smith – Member

Betsy Stagno – Member



Gary Mears



# COMMISSIONED RULING ELDER

Does the same work and has the same authorities as an ordained minister for a given congregation:

- Preach and plan worship
- Officiate over the Lord's Supper
- Baptize
- Officiate at weddings
- Conduct funerals
- Moderate Session meetings



Gary will not be commissioned until September

This means that until then he will not:

- Officiate at sacraments (Baptism and Communion)
- Moderate Session meetings

Presbytery will provide an ordained pastor  
for sacraments and session moderation  
for these four months

## **How do we know that Gary is the right person for CPC?**

- \* National Presbytery background check
- \* Highly recommended by the Presbytery
- \* Current church recently offered him a full-time job  
(Boonsboro First Christian Church– Boonsboro, Maryland)

### **What Your DPNC Did ... why we are convinced**

- Resume
- On-line information
- One page Statement of Faith
- Two in-person interviews
- Watched four on-line sermons
- Checked five references – all more than “good”

... and Gary Mears has the skill set that will help us to grow CPC.



Our Prayer for Weeks ...

Lord, Send us someone whose greatest joy meets our deepest needs ...





# Gary Mears

## Education

- **Wesley Theological Seminary** 2018 – Present  
Master of Arts, Theology (in progress)
- **University of Virginia**  
Bachelor of Science, Commerce  
Master of Education, Counseling

Proven Experience...Skills  
Presbytery tested



## **Additional Work ...**

### **Guest Preacher**

Sunday morning guest preacher for local churches: Riverside Presbyterian, Brambleton Presbyterian, Leesburg Presbyterian, Boyds Presbyterian, and Christ Church – Lucketts (Episcopal)

### **Riverside Church, Sterling VA & First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, PA – Lancaster County Council of Churches - Treasurer, Board of Directors**

Provided leadership to the Council, especially in the areas of fund-raising and financial management. Served as Treasurer until asked to step in as Interim Executive Director.

### **Youth Group Volunteer**

Worked to share God's love and teach the Gospel to high school and middle school students. Served as primary speaker at several large Summer Youth Retreats, led Bible Studies and Small Groups.



## From Gary's Resume

First Christian Church of Boonsboro      January 2022 – Present

Interim Pastor - Currently serves as Interim Pastor for a Disciples of Christ Church in Boonsboro, MD.

Faith Chapel (The Porch) -- PC(USA)      April 2017 – Dec 2021

Led the effort to establish a new worshipping at the site of a church that had opened in 1885 and closed in 2015.

Lancaster County Council of Churches      December 2016 – March 2017

Interim Executive Director - *feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the prisoner, and welcome the stranger* (Matthew 25:31-46).