

April 12, 2022

Dear Member of SAPC,

On behalf of the nominating committee, I would like to express that it has been a privilege to serve in this capacity. As I mentioned this past Sunday, this calling has been a heavy burden that our committee has taken very seriously. Through this calling, God has chosen to bless our committee in so many ways. One of the blessings we have received was the opportunity to spend the past six months reflecting on and assessing Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church. This has served as an incredible reminder that we have so much to be thankful for. SAPC is blessed with sound biblical teaching, a friendly and loving congregation, an amazing staff, wonderful facilities, and so much more. During this time, we have also been afforded the opportunity to recognize areas needing growth and improvement so that we may not only meet the needs of our members today, but also ensure the health of SAPC for years to come. Looking forward, we believe that SAPC is well positioned to continue being the special church we have all come to know and love. ***It is with this in mind that the nominating committee has made the decision to recommend Rev. Marc Rattray to be the next Senior Pastor of Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church.***

Rev. Rattray needs no introduction. He has faithfully served at Saint Andrews for the last 19 years. He is our Associate Pastor and is currently serving as our Director of Ministries, as well as Director of Worship and Arts. Not many churches are afforded the opportunity to call their next Senior Pastor from within. We are privileged to have witnessed Rev. Rattray's ability to handle the Word, shepherd those under his care, display his passion for the lost, and express his understanding of SAPC's vision. For years, Rev. Rattray has felt the Lord calling him to pursue a role as Senior Pastor and has followed the Lord's leading toward that direction. With Rev. Welden's decision last year to retire and the nominating committee's recommendation, Rev. Rattray has humbly accepted the nomination for the congregation to consider him as our next Senior Pastor.

You are tasked with an important decision, calling our next Senior Pastor. I can assure you that the nominating committee understands the weight of this task as we have been wrestling with it ourselves for the past six months. Our 22-member committee has discussed many of the questions you may have yourself: questions over process, our church's vision, leadership, about hiring from within, and ultimately, questions of whether Rev. Rattray is who God has called to be our next Senior Pastor. Our church's membership was well represented by this committee, and we have discussed many of your questions in detail. The nominating committee looks forward to you hearing why we have made this recommendation.

In the beginning, members of the congregation were encouraged to wait for updates, as well as any final recommendation, to come from the committee directly. It has been discouraging to us to hear of some of the misinformation that has spread throughout the church. Our committee members have openly shared their views and opinions within our closed committee meetings with the expectation that their thoughts and words would not be taken out of context. I prayerfully ask that you protect the integrity of our committee, respect the committee members who have faithfully served in a God-glorifying manner, and prayerfully purpose to preserve the unity of the body at SAPC.

It is your privilege and responsibility as a church member to hear directly from Rev. Rattray in order to make an informed decision. Multiple opportunities are outlined below for you to do so and I encourage you to attend. I implore you to take advantage of these opportunities so that you may have your questions answered.

Change is always difficult, but God uses change to allow us the opportunity to grow. The evil one knows that bringing division is his best scheme to prevent kingdom growth and stifle our potential. It is only by resting in the sovereignty of our Lord and knowing how much He truly loves His bride that we find true comfort. The future of Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church is bright. We have a vision to help people joyfully know Jesus Christ, love Him more, and serve Him better. Please continue to pray for SAPC over the next several weeks. Pray for our staff, pray for our congregation, and pray for Rev. Rattray and his family. Pray for our members to come together in grace and love so that we may all, through the power of the Holy Spirit, serve our Lord and Savior and His church.

Opportunities for Q&A and to meet with Rev. Rattray

April 19<sup>th</sup>- Tuesday Night at 6:30-7:30pm/Sanctuary

April 21<sup>st</sup>- Thursday Night at 6:30-7:30pm/Sanctuary

April 26<sup>th</sup>- Tuesday Night at 6:30-7:30pm/Sanctuary

May 1<sup>st</sup>- Joint Growth Class Hour at 9:30am/Great Hall

Worship Service at 10:30am/Sanctuary

Congregational Meeting/following worship/Sanctuary

**This letter will also serve as the required notice for the Congregational Meeting that the Session has called on May 1, 2022, following the worship service to conduct the following business:**

- ***Vote on the Recommendation of the Nominating Committee to call Rev. Marc Rattray as the next Senior Pastor of Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church***
- ***Vote to dissolve the Nominating Committee***

On behalf of the committee, I want to again express that it has been a privilege for us to serve in this capacity and I want to thank each of you for all your prayers and support. If you have any questions, please free to contact me.

For His Glory,



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