



Presbytery of Charlotte

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February 13, 2012

To: Members of the Presbytery of Charlotte

I am writing for several reasons. One is to inform you that, at the recommendation of Council, the Presbytery of Charlotte acted at the stated meeting on February 11, 2012, to dissolve the relationship with the Rev. Dr. Samuel E. Roberson as General Presbyter/Stated Clerk, effective no later than March 1, 2012, with a one-year severance package funded from the "Building Healthy Churches Fund." You can read the official wording in the enclosed "Highlights" from the meeting.

I also want to let you know that until an Interim General Presbyter/Stated Clerk is found, the Rev. Timm High will function as acting General Presbyter and Tamara Williams will function as Stated Clerk.

If you were not at the Presbytery meeting, know that these actions came at the recommendation of Presbytery's Council, whom you elected and entrusted with making decisions such as these. Both the Council meeting and the portion of the Presbytery meeting dealing with this action were held in "executive session," which means that only the action taken is reported.

Finally, I would tell you what I told the presbytery body at the meeting. Though I believe we are in a time of financial, relational, ministry, and mission crisis, I am hopeful. I am hopeful that by focusing on building community – building FAMILY – around what God is already at work doing in our local congregations, we can find a way forward and honor God with our work and witness in the world.

Even at the presbytery meeting, I sensed willingness and a desire to pursue this vision of a presbytery. I hope you will join me in seeing where God leads us.

In God's grace,

*The Rev. Dr. Robert Austell
Moderator of Council*