

NASSAU
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



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October 15, 2015

Pastor Muriel Burrows and Members of Session
Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church
124 Witherspoon Street
Princeton, NJ 08542

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

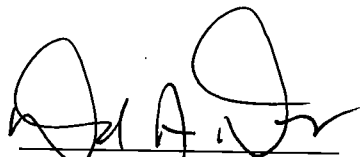
With deep gratitude to God we, members of the Session, are honored to offer you our congratulations on the occasion of the 175th Anniversary of the Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church. As an historic African-American congregation, your church holds such a significant place in the history of our community and our nation. We are humbled by the profound witness of the generations who have done the work of ministry and lived the life of faith in and through Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church and we give thanks for each of you now who, by God's grace, press on and carry the mantle of those who have gone before you in our shared Presbyterian heritage.

Even as we celebrate with you, we must also bear witness to what history reveals to us about the relationship of our congregations and the reality of troubled race relations and racism in Princeton. We lament the sins of our forebears and acknowledge the insitutional complicity of First Presbyterian Church in our community's hesitancy to embrace the abolition of slavery and, thereafter, in our community's participation in the establishment and maintenance of Jim Crow segregation. In the power of God's Holy Spirit and through the redemption we know in Jesus Christ, we seek to look to a future together that more nearly represents the kingdom God intends for us and for the world.

Therefore, as members of the Session of Nassau Presbyterian Church, we seek to lay before God our own sins of racism and all that may hold us back from faith-filled lives that work for justice and righteousness. We commit to educating the current Nassau Church family on the complexities in the history of our two congregations and to promoting acts of reconciliation in the Presbyterian community of Princeton and beyond. We intend to discern ways to share our time, talent, and resources in a way that will ensure our collective and distinctive future in the shared Presbyterian witness that God now entrusts to our two congregations.

May God bless the Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church with a future that honors its past and gives glory to Jesus Christ, who alone is head of the church. And as teaching and ruling elders in the Presbyterian Church (USA), may all of us pray for a vision and unity for our two historic congregations that will allow us to serve this community with one voice for generations yet to come.

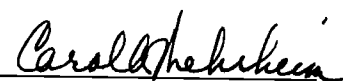
With the peace and grace of Christ,



David A. Davis
Pastor



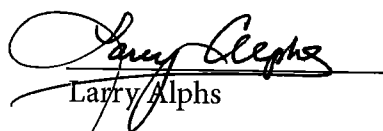
Lauren J. McFeaters
Associate Pastor



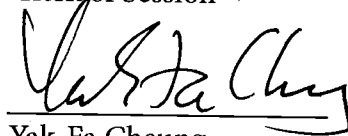
Carol Wehrheim
Clerk of Session




Lisa Burke



Larry Alphas



Yak-Fa Cheung



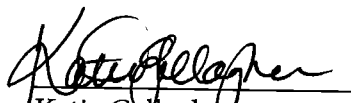
Brian Daly



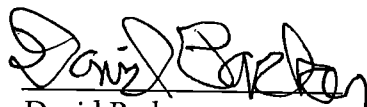
Emma Bezilla



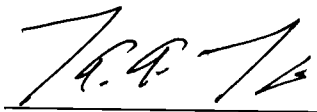
Rhonda Hackworth



Katie Gallagher




David Parker



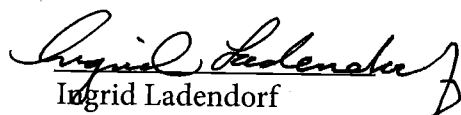
Keith Kettelkamp



Anna Hill



Martin Tel



Ingrid Ladendorf



Peter Loupos



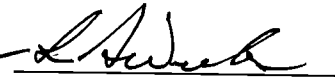
Susan Van Sickle



Lolly O'Brien



John Parker



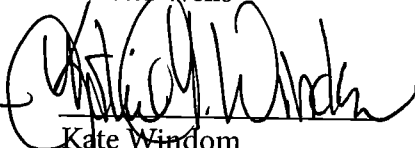
Loretta Wells




Lauren Valvanis



Stephanie Patterson



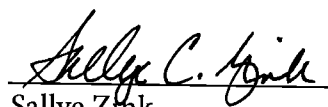
Kate Windom



Jeff Ward



Nicos Scordis



Sallye Zink