



The Call to Active Members Of  
First Federated Church of Peoria, Illinois  
To a Special Meeting of the Congregation

The special meeting of First Federated Church, Peoria, Illinois  
shall be held Sunday, May 7th, 2023 10 minutes following the  
Benediction at the congregation's 10 o'clock am worship service.

The sole purpose of the meeting is as follows:

**The congregation will vote on the question of extending the formal  
call to Rev. Edward Paul Wegele as Senior Pastor  
of First Federated Church.**

*Rev. Timothy Mitchell*

Rev. Timothy Mitchell  
Moderator, Executive Board  
First Federated Church

*Ralph R. Schoen*

Ralph Schoen  
Vice-Moderator, Executive Board  
First Federated Church

*Please see the other page included for  
our Senior Pastor Search Committee's  
announcement of a call for a new Senior Pastor.*



Dear FFC Members,

The Senior Pastor Search Committee is pleased to announce the good news for which you have been patiently waiting. After sincere prayer and review of many applicants, we are ready to call our next senior pastor, Rev. Edward Paul Wegele (pronounced Wagel - like bagel).

The Search Committee began its mission almost two years ago meeting with our liaisons from both the Presbytery of Great Rivers of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ in the fall of 2021. We immediately began the process of discerning our congregation to determine "who" FFC is by collecting information through focus groups and a survey. Data were analyzed, summarized, and provided to all for review on our website. This data helped the Search Committee identify the characteristics we were looking for in our new Senior Pastor. Once applicants were matched by the Presbytery and UCC, the Search Committee began reviewing and selecting applicants. Websites and sermons were reviewed, Zoom interviews were conducted, references were consulted, and invitations were extended for in-person visits. Some applicants were pursued further, some withdrew, and in the end, the Lord revealed a good match with Rev. Wegele, who we interviewed at our church over a couple days in March. He was extended a call that has been approved by the Executive Board, and now we are following the Federation By-laws by formally announcing the call on two Sundays at both services. We are looking forward to his visit on May 6th and to him preaching to the congregation on May 7th.

On May 6th, the congregation will have a chance to further recruit Rev. Wegele and his wife Nicole at an informal Meet and Greet in the Bride's Lounge on the second floor of the church. On Sunday, May 7th (Youth Sunday), Rev. Wegele will have an opportunity to preach during the 10:00 am service with a Congregational Meeting immediately following. This meeting will be facilitated by Rev. Dr. Laura Reason from the Presbytery who will direct the ballot voting and counting, then announce the outcome of the vote. **This meeting is extremely important and the Search Committee hopes to see you there.**

*Over Please*

It has been an honor for the members of the Search Committee to serve in this process. We are hopeful that completing this search will allow us to continue service in the process of transitioning our new Senior Pastor into his new position.

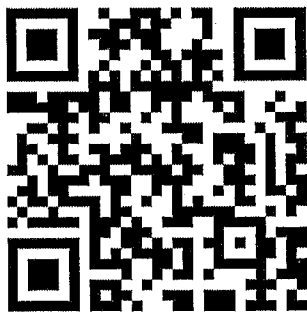
Sincerely,

Senior Pastor Search Committee Members

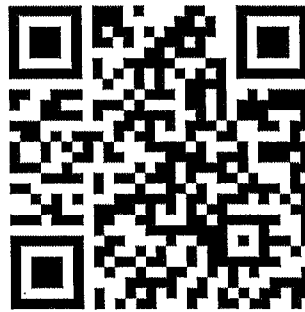
Celia Johnson, Co-Chair  
Shane Richardson, Co-Chair  
Chris Crawford, Co-Secretary  
Claire McQuerry, Co-Secretary  
*Liz Weber, prior Co-Chair*

Hans Busch  
Kristen D'Alfonso  
Will Frank  
Linc Hobson  
*Lauren Braun*

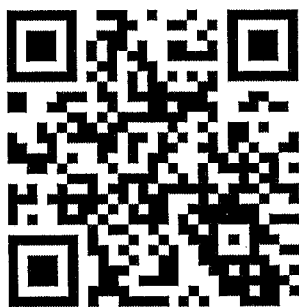
### Links for Rev. Wegele



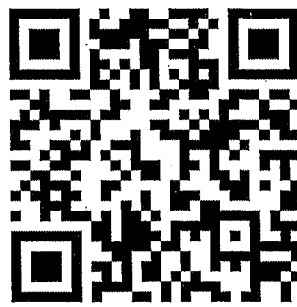
<https://www.ubpchurch.com/index.html>



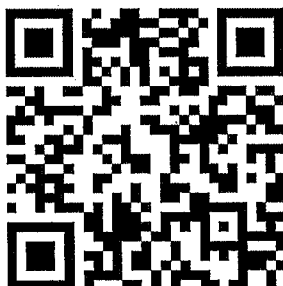
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