

## TOWN HALL MEETING

Sunday, Rev. Wendy Tajima, Executive Presbyter of San Gabriel Presbytery Answered questions concerning the direction Northminster is going with the results of New Beginnings. Following are the questions and answers.

Rev. Tajima reminder us that change, by its nature, is disruptive. It is natural to be discomforted by what is happening. Even though our brains are wired to recognize danger and risk and respond. We need to recognize the good things our church has done and is doing and to savor this.

### **1. What did the Presbytery have in mind with New Beginnings?**

Many denominations around the country were looking at the changes taking place in main line Christian churches. Disciple of Christ had developed this program as a way to gather data to help churches in deciding what their future path was. PCUSA licensed the process to assist churches in gathering data which would then allow churches to begin a dialogue as to what their future will be.

### **2. Will we need to do a Mission Study?**

Using the information from New Beginnings, we will need a mission statement to guide us in our decision making process.

### **3. Are we going to be looking at guest preachers or an interim pastor?**

First of all, we want to say good-by to Bob and his family, and to thank him. We will have guest preachers in January and hiring an interim pastor by February.

### **4. What will the Interim be doing?**

It is very important for the congregation and session to choose an interim who will assist us in choosing a pastor who will walk with us as we become a missional church.

- 5. During the interim time is there a process where we, as a congregation, can reflect on our role as we partner with the new pastor?**

It is important that the congregation and session become leaders who will walk with the new pastor as we discern our mission.

- 6. What happened to the first three churches in the Presbytery who participated in New Beginnings?**

One church welcomed a new pastor; a second reaffirmed that what they were doing was the path they wanted; and the third church couldn't come to an agreement.

- 7. When we were searching for a pastor at the time we called Bob Stebe, there was one minister for every church seeking a pastor. Is that the same today?**

The exact opposite exists today where there is five pastors seeking a position for every church seeking a pastor.

On Sunday, December 6, there will be a two hour workshop to develop a mission statement that will define who we are and what we want our church to be in our community. Please prayerfully consider attending, so we can here all the voices of the congregation.

The session hopes this answers some of the questions about the change and where and who we will be. Please feel free to question any of the session members as to our progress.