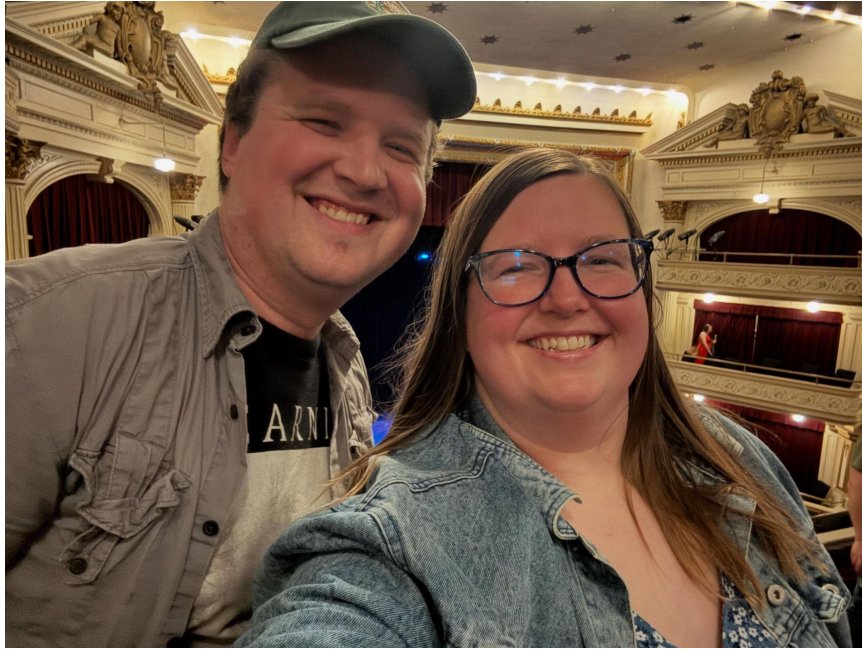




July 6, 2026

Dear First Pres Family,

Do you recall the May 7th Weekly letter in which I communicated plans for the Kroeker family to cease serving at FPC by May of 2027? We were responding to the stirring of the Spirit over the past few years and our desire to honor God and our family commitments. We found ourselves remembering the Lord's prompting to move before Cypress came into the picture and wondering how we could join what the Lord was doing, no matter the location.

Jeremy encouraged us to be open to God calling us into a new position before May 2027. That felt intimidating to be honest. It has been hard to imagine not serving in this city with the beautiful people of First Pres. I applied to over 30 positions, some local and others all over the country. My hope was that by casting the net wide, we could learn some things in the process. In May, I started applying to jobs in both the EPC and ECO denominations. There are a lot of similarities in these two Presbyterian denominations. As I read through the tenants of faith, it was clear my conscience could align with ECO.

In June, Westminster Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC contacted us. We had five interviews in two weeks and they flew us out for a visit. As we prayed with and shared meals with the beautiful people of Westminster, it truly felt like this is what the Lord has

been preparing our hearts for all along. When we first started dating I told Aaron it wouldn't work out unless he was okay retiring in North Carolina. The Raleigh/Durham area is where he proposed to me. One of my best friends from college lives there and I've always dreamed of living on the East Coast at some point. Aaron joked that our retirement plan may have come early.

The offer came last week and I have accepted a call to be their Director of Youth and Families. In a year, the intention is to be ordained as a pastor in A Covenant Order of Presbyterians (ECO).

Westminster is in a season of rebuilding their youth and children's ministries strategy with an emphasis on evangelism, outreach and discipleship. They desire someone to have meals with families and intentional discipleship. These are all things I learned to value here, with you. I've served in Fresno since I was 21 years old. Ya'll have deeply formed my own discipleship and confidence in following Jesus' call on my life. Thank you does not even seem to capture the appreciation I have for you all. So I'm borrowing from the apostle Paul,

*"Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now." Phil. 1:3*

It is with mixed emotions I tell you that our last Sunday will be August 9. We will take 5 weeks of Sabbatical and then drive across the country visiting friends and making our way to the east coast. Our official start date at Westminster is October 4.

We trust in God's faithfulness for us and for y'all in this transition. I believe the Children & Youth Ministries are prepared for this transition. I've worked with Joseph Cardoza to plan a year of curriculum for Ignite ministry. The Summer Staff Support team is locked in on how to keep that program moving. Sheriahna Anderson is receiving coaching and feeling move confident everyday in the call God has on her life and where he is leading FPC Children's ministry. Dan Kimball has been an absolute gift to the Rooted community coming alongside Noah Fiori in leading students. Noah and I have already been preparing plans for Camp

Santa Cruz in September.

Children & Youth ministry will most definitely need you, the FPC community, to lean into prayer and support as y'all discern the best ways to disciple, encourage and equip families and students to know the love of Jesus. I believe the Spirit will give you vision & provision for this next season.

With deep love and gratitude we are getting ready to depart. Please reach out to connect as we get ready to leave this very special place.

*Thank You!*

*Meagan Kroeker*