

## Called to Discernment

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! I want to report to you about the exciting and challenging work that Foothills Presbytery has undertaken through its election of the Foothills Presbytery Discernment Task Force. Having heard God's Call to engage in a deep and broad reflection about what our Lord is leading us to do and be in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we have elected a Discernment Task Force to pray, think, study, dream and plan for how best to be Presbyterians connected together in common mission and purpose. The Discernment Task Force is made up of four Teaching Elders and Four Ruling Elders (see below) who represent the breadth and diversity our of Presbytery. Gathering in December to begin the task, your Presbytery Staff provided a notebook of resources to lay out the challenge and provide a beginning overview of the structures, resources, finances and review of recent practices of our common life. At that inaugural meeting I invited our Task Force Members to reflect on this Calling not simply as a practical and structural work, but as a Biblical and theological task. (below you will find a You Tube link to that reflection). Meeting monthly since then the Task Force has begun to grapple with the core issues of what our Constitution requires of us and what unique mission we face in the Upstate of South Carolina. In the coming months the Task Force and Presbytery Staff will begin to share our reflections and expand the conversation to the whole of the Presbytery. Watch the newsletter for reflections and resources about the Discernment Task and for opportunities to join the conversation.

Grace and Peace,  
Gordon W. G. Raynal  
Interim Presbytery Pastor and Stated Clerk

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