

Welcome
Pastor Jeffrey



Rev. Dr. Jeffrey D. Weenink
Interim Senior Pastor



Kirk in the Hills

REV. DR. JEFFREY WEENINK



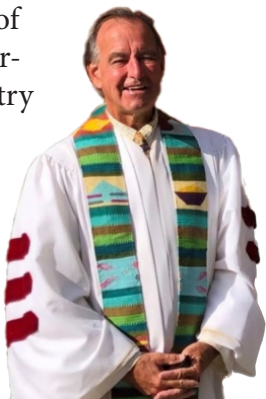
Dr. Weenink comes to the Kirk with a wealth of seasoned experience; extensive expertise in, and an abiding love for parish ministry. As a family, the Weeninks love anything in, on, over, under, or around the water (sailing, boating, paddling, Scuba Diving, gazing at the horizon...)

Pastor Jeffery's family includes a wife of 39 years Jeanne, a retired early elementary school educator; three daughters - Jenneke (Jenn-eh-kah Dutch for Jennifer) - Holland, MI; Justyne - Crested Butte, Colorado; Jaime - currently completing her baccalaureate education at Alma College.

They are intrepid travelers, enjoy Alpine and Nordic skiing, and are always open to new adventures. Jeanne is a potter and Jeffrey is a frustrated woodworker who likes to make sawdust.

EDUCATION

Dr. Weenink graduated from Alma College with a double major in Sociology and Religion; a Master of Divinity from Duke University and a Doctor of Ministry from San Francisco Theological Seminary. He is a cradle Presbyterian, child of the Manse, and third-generation church professional.



HIGHLIGHTS IN MINISTRY

A Michigan native, Jeffrey has served in ordained ministry for over 42 years, and multiple years as senior staff for faith-based residential camps. He served three long-term pastorates – First Presbyterian Church Danville, IL (8 years); First Presbyterian Church of Holt, MI (10 years); and First Presbyterian Church of Bay City (20 years). He entered into intentional Interim Ministry in upstate New York (1st Presbyterian Pittsford); Jacksonville Beach, FL (Palms Presbyterian); and recently in Western Connecticut at Wilton Presbyterian Church. Pastor Jeffery has also faithfully served the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. In the mission field, he currently serves in leadership roles for multiple Presbyterian initiatives including Buckhorn Children's Center – Presbyterian Child Welfare Agency; Living Waters of the World; and Tres M Ministerios.

FUN FACTS

Pastor Jeffrey has a lifetime affection for the water and all things nautical. He is a NAUI certified SCUBA diver – completing Rescue Diver Certification.

He is an alpine skier with a preference for the steep and deep.

Pastor Jeffrey has volunteered with the National Ski Patrol.

He is a seasoned trekker who has experienced multiple continents, countries, and cultures.

Golf – he is a poor/mediocre player but does not allow that to ruin a good walk.

Pastor Jeffrey likes to make saw-dust and work with wood.

Restorations - old houses, antiques, two classic mahogany boats (Chris Craft runabouts – 1948 & 1929); a vintage car (1930 Ford Phaeton).

His recent builds include 2 mahogany kayaks, 1 stand up paddleboard & paddles, and rose compasses.

Q&A

Favorite beverage

Coffee - I like my coffee dark, robust - straight

Favorite Books

Bruce Feiler's book, *Life is in the Transitions*, Brené Brown – *Atlas of the Heart*, *From Strength to Strength* by Arthur C. Brooks, William Bridges: *Managing Transitions*

Favorite Movies

UP, Forest Gump, Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Food

I eat to live, not live to eat... I even enjoy hospital food

Favorite Scripture Verse

Romans 5:1-5

Favorite Season

Summer

Playlist

An eclectic blend of classical, R&B, folk, rock, jazz, indie, and more.

FROM PASTOR WEENINK

Greetings to the Kin of the Kirk,

My heart is filled with delight, elation, gratitude, some healthy trepidation, and deep humility in looking forward to serving alongside you in this time of transition. I have learned quite a bit about you, and you will learn more about me over the coming months. In the meantime, I've been invited to share a wee word with you by way of introduction, beyond what has been prepared by your Interim Pastor Search Team:

Our household (even though you will be seeing mainly me) could not be more thrilled with the opportunity to be part of your journey at the Kirk, especially during this celebratory 75th Anniversary Year. Let me be the first to say, thank you for this opportunity to serve alongside you during this time of transition. Transitions take us to a threshold – a hinge time between that which has been, and that which is yet to be. Said one wise soul: “Time is a dress-maker specializing in alterations.” It is said that no one likes change, except a wet baby. Yet, change is inevitable, (except from a vending machine).

While times of transition and change can be profoundly disorienting, they can also give birth to transformation. Walking with God is a magnificent adventure; one which is full of serendipities, surprises, and good gifts. I am looking forward to all of those things in covenant with you as your Interim Pastor. By definition, that means our time together will be limited to this time of transition. During this time we will be busy with all aspects of our Lord's work, witness, mission, and ministry.

In addition, we will be intentionally looking into our heritage, our current context, the ways we do ministry, our connections to the larger church, imagining the future, and committing to new directions in ministry.

Long ago, reflecting back on times of intense turmoil he had known, St. Augustine wrote a brief prayer:

O God, to turn from you is to fall, to turn to you is to rise, and to abide in you is to stand fast forever.

I look forward to entering into this growing season with you in mutually dedicated efforts, playful times, prayerful moments punctuated by healthy doses of good humor as we turn to our creator God to rise, abide and stand fast together. Let's have fun doing this beginning June 1.

Yours in faith,



Rev. Dr. Jeffrey D. Weenink
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INTERIM SENIOR PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Randy Pappal, <i>Chair</i>	Julia Libcke
Bob Heuer	Linda Juracek-Lipa
Kay Maxwell	Chip Tallinger
Heather Lorincz	



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