

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH *of* OAKLAND

— United Church of Christ —

August 29, 2008

Dear Members and Friends of First Congregational Church of Oakland,

Since May of this year, the Rev. Lynice Pinkard has been our Acting Senior Pastor. After prayerfully and deliberately considering this congregation's hopes and needs and Pastor Lynice's gifts, the Pastoral Search Committee recommends that she be called as Senior Pastor of FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH *of* OAKLAND, *United Church of Christ*.

According to our bylaws, that decision must be made by a duly-noticed congregational meeting. This is your official notice of that meeting, which will be **September 14, 2008, in the Sanctuary from 1:15 until 3:30.**

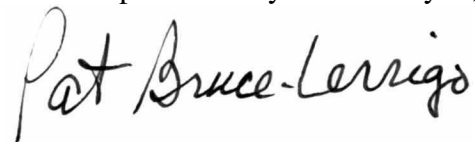
At the meeting:

- I. The Pastoral Search Committee will review the steps it has taken in its deliberations, and the reasons for its recommendation.
- II. The congregation may share its questions and reflections with the Committee or Pastor Lynice.
- III. Voting members will vote whether to call Lynice Pinkard as our Senior Pastor by secret ballot.

In the United Church of Christ, it is the congregation that calls the church's Pastor. Our bylaws require that at least **30% of the voting membership** be present at a meeting to call a Senior Pastor. We hope many more than that will attend. The bylaws also specify that the candidate must be elected by a minimum two-thirds majority. Both Acting Senior Pastor Lynice and the Search Committee have agreed in this case that her call by the congregation will require an **80% favorable vote** of the voting members present on September 14th.

Please participate in this profound decision in our congregation's life together!

With deep thanks to you and for you,



Pat Bruce-Lerrigo
Moderator