



July 6, 2018

Dear Friends in Christ,

I'll never forget the phone call from the Pastor Nominating Committee in the fall of 2014 extending the call to me to serve as your pastor. What wonderful things God has allowed Lauren and me to witness and to be part of as this magnificent church has sought the leading of the Holy Spirit during our time of ministry together.

It is, therefore, with tremendously mixed emotions that I tell you I will be leaving Shadyside Presbyterian Church in August to serve a church in Florida.

I understand that this is a difficult message to hear. It also has been a difficult and prayer-filled decision to make. I share this news with you with a heavy heart because so many of you have been like family to Lauren and me. You have supported my ministry, listened faithfully with me for God's Word and Spirit to lead us, and accepted me as well as any other human being, with both strengths and weaknesses, as only true friends can. SPC has been a rich blessing in our lives, and I thank you for your faith and commitment and for all that you have shared in our faith journey together.

You are in gifted hands with our amazing clergy, staff, and all who serve as officers of SPC. They are a most impressive team of colleagues with deep commitments of faith and service to our Lord.

Please know that you will be in my thoughts and prayers as you work with the Presbytery of Pittsburgh in determining your next best steps forward. In fact, you will always remain in my prayers as the friends, servants, and people of God you have been and I know will continue to be.

I pray for God's blessings on you and on this special church as you continue your phenomenal journey of ministry and mission.

In Christ's Service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Conrad".

The Reverend Dr. Conrad C. Sharps