



December 8, 2021

Dear Congregation member,

We are pleased to introduce you to our new Associate Pastor, Reverend Dr. Steve Crocco.

Following several months of meetings with 4 candidates, and with prayer and discernment, the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee of Session, comprised of Sam Anderson, Chairperson, Nancy Sloan, Jeff Kline and Lin Ewing, unanimously agreed that the Reverend Dr. Crocco was the ideal candidate to serve in a part-time capacity with our Senior Pastor, the Reverend Dr. Steve Wilson. Dr. Crocco has been approved by Pittsburgh Presbytery to accept the position and has enthusiastically accepted our invitation to become part of the pastoral staff at Oakmont Presbyterian Church.



Nominating committee members found Steve to be interpersonally warm, responsive, and thoughtful in his responses to questions, and enthusiastic about the opportunities to work at OPC, especially with Adult Education and Mission ministries as well as being involved in pastoral care and preaching. Steve's references were overwhelmingly enthusiastic about his ministry among them and described him as a person of "great integrity;" "empathetic, responsive, organized, a great speaker who provides carefully crafted sermons."

Steve comes to us from his most recent position as the Library Director at Yale Divinity School in New Haven, Connecticut, where he served for 6 years; prior to that Steve C. was the Library Director at the US Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Over the course of his career, Steve also has been on the faculties of Princeton Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and Elmhurst College in Illinois. In addition, Steve has served Interim ministries at the United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington and the First Presbyterian Church in Cranbury, New Jersey.

Steve and his wife, Beth Claussen, have eight adult children and eight grandchildren between them. Beth is the daughter of OPC members Cliff and Susan Buell. Steve and Beth returned to Pittsburgh when Steve retired from Yale Divinity School. Beth has recently resumed her career in Pittsburgh as a private voice instructor, and Steve reports that he has been "spending time reading, writing and getting outside as much as I can to walk, hike and work in the garden with Beth." The couple live in the Morningside neighborhood of Pittsburgh.

We are delighted to welcome Reverend Dr. Steve Crocco as Associate Pastor to Oakmont Presbyterian Church. His first Sunday with us will be December 12, 2021, when he will be introduced and will assist Steve Wilson in the worship service. We trust that he will be welcomed warmly and enthusiastically by our congregation.

Grace and peace,

Sam Anderson, Nancy Sloan, Jeff Kline, Lin Ewing