

Lincoln Congregational Temple United Church of Christ 1701 11th Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20001

August 2018

Dear Lincoln Temple Family Member,

This is to inform you that effective Sunday, September 30, 2018, Lincoln Congregational Temple, United Church of Christ, will cease to operate as a congregation. On that day, we will hold our final worship service at 1701 Eleventh Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001. Please join us in worship on that day.

The decision to cease operations officially was made on Sunday, August 5, 2018 during a call meeting of the congregation. Only the votes of current members (as defined in Section F, Item 2, Page 5 under the March 2000 Constitution and By-laws of Lincoln Congregational Temple, United Church of Christ) were recorded.

The following circumstances led to the realization that we no longer were a viable congregation: dwindling finances, low membership, limited member resources and engagement, demographic changes within the surrounding community, and an undetermined mission and ministry. In light thereof and after considerable discussion, prayer, and a request for guidance from the Potomac Association and Central Atlantic Conference, the afore-mentioned action was taken. Additionally, members voted to work with the Central Atlantic Conference for a period of at least one year to explore the possibility of redeveloping or selling the church building.

After September 30th, current members may join other churches of their choosing. Minister Geneva Hudson has pledged to continue visiting and serving communion to our homebound and hospitalized members. Furthermore, arrangements will be made with a sister church to serve as a new "home church" for those persons.

Lincoln Temple has endured for 149 years and you may wonder what will be its legacy. The members present and voting on August 5, 2018, approved the formation of a four-member transition team to facilitate and manage tasks that typically ensue once a church closes, including preparing to preserve its legacy. To that end, the transition team will be working with the Associate Conference Minister, Rev. Marvin Silver and will keep in touch with members and friends of Lincoln Temple. In the meantime, God bless and keep you.

Yours in Christ,

Jeanne D. Cooper

Moderator

Reverend Barbara Breland, Pastor Jeanne Cooper, Moderator Lezah Roberts, Treasurer

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