



Dear friends of UPC and The Inn,

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ!

We are aware of the recent decisions made by leadership at UPC leading to the dismissal of staff and current closure of the existing college ministries. We are also aware how deeply troubled many are at these changes; we share your concerns.

Presbyterian governance locates the authority and responsibility for congregational ministries and non-ordained staff at the church session level. This council, composed of ordained and elected elders from the congregation and moderated by the senior pastor of the church, are charged with the oversight, discernment, and administration of church life.

The presbytery either through the executive presbyters such as ourselves or the Commission on Ministry may be called upon to support, clarify, and share collective wisdom on the work of the church upon request from the session itself. As of this time, no one from the UPC session has reached out to the presbytery for assistance and no complaints have been filed that would require us to intervene through our disciplinary process.

We lament with you the abrupt decisions that have been made recently by UPC leadership and the manner with which it was carried out. But we also trust that the session is doing its due diligence in listening to the congregation's concerns and should the session believe they need assistance, they will reach out for help.

In the meantime, we encourage you to communicate directly with the UPC session by emailing the clerk ([clerk@upc.org](mailto:clerk@upc.org)) and join us in holding all - former and current - church employees in prayer.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eliana Maxim".

Rev. Eliana Maxim  
Co-Executive Presbyter  
Presbytery of Seattle

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Lumsden".

Rev. Scott Lumsden  
Co-Executive Presbyter  
Presbytery of Seattle