

Pastoral Update



The process has begun to find a new pastor. Through the process, Church Council plans to keep you updated with as much detail as is appropriate.

The process started May 12 at the monthly Church Council meeting where Pastor Martha Seip, (Dean of the Mission District), conducted an exit interview with Pastor Hayn. Pastor Gene Handwerk, (Synod staff representative), was present. Pastor Handwerk will work with us through the entire process. The process to call a pastor usually takes 12-18 months.

For three consecutive weeks in June, a questionnaire was distributed to you during the 8:00 and 10:30 services. Council members will now fill out a Ministry Site Profile document. In September or October, Gene Handwerk will hold a Congregation Information meeting.

Pastor Handwerk and Synod staff, will create a 30-40 page Congregation Study Booklet from the questionnaires, the Ministry Site Profile and with input from the Informational meeting. This Booklet will be given to prospective Pastors with the aim of finding the best match for Jordan.

A six person Call Committee will be appointed by Council. The chairman of the Call Committee will be assigned by Council. The Call Committee usually consists of 3 males, 3 females, (one person under the age of 18).

After the Booklet is created and the Call Committee is selected, the Bishop and Pastor Handwerk will meet with Council and the Call Committee.

The Bishop and staff will identify potential candidate(s). We need to decide if we want to interview one candidate at a time, or up to three at a time. There are pros & cons to either strategy.

The Call Committee will interview candidate(s). If there is continued interest, the Committee will observe the candidate conducting worship. The treasurer decides on the salary package. Council negotiates a salary package with the prospect. If the Call Committee recommends a candidate to Council, a special meeting is arranged with the candidate and Council. During this meeting a vote is taken to recommend or reject the candidate. If recommended, then a social will be arranged for the congregation to meet the candidate. The candidate will conduct worship. After worship, the congregation will vote whether to call the pastor.

Pastors Grube & Michel will serve as interim Pastors. Pastor Michel will begin August 21. Until August 21, Pastor Grube will have office hours, visit shut-ins and those in the hospital, attend meetings and preach.

Synod rules and Jordan Bylaws do not allow Interim Pastors to be candidates.

Contact Dean Wagaman or Bill Hendricks with any questions or concerns.