

Ministerial Search Committee Updates – August 2015

Westside, follow the work of your the Ministerial Search Committee (MSC) right here on the church website. This first update covers our start-up through the August cottage meetings and survey work. Subsequent updates will be appearing monthly. Your MSC members are: Cindy Fountain, Chair; Carol Cappa, Secretary; Tom Woods, Treasurer; Morris Meador, Survey Coordinator; Jeff Rodriguez, Packet Editor; Sara Munoz, Arranger; Reference Checker, Jane Hardwick.

The MSC has been working almost weekly since its retreat held, July 11. Because the retreat was where we discussed and determined our jobs, most of the actual beginning search work started after that. Before the retreat, we met just after being elected to gather in community with one another, and set up logistical items.

We then met in June, with Rev. Jennifer Innis, our Ministerial Search Representative, where she went over different processes with us - how some of this work actually gets sorted out and happens in “real life.” We also met with Rev. Alex to learn and talk about the Interim Minister's role in the search process.

Our retreat, July 11, helped us learn things about each other, delineate our specific jobs, and determine “ground rules” on how we can work effectively as a group who is making decisions that are profound for Westside. We all felt that this retreat was very successful! Our Facilitator, Shelby Danks, M.S. Ed., was knowledgeable, insightful, and made our day both productive and fun.



Soon after the retreat, the first goals became getting a congregational survey put together, how our cottage (small) meetings would be implemented, and what information we want to learn from them. Morris, as our Survey Coordinator, was instrumental in tackling both the survey and cottage meeting questions, then the whole team worked together through emails and face-to-face meetings to produce a concise, but relevant survey, and started facilitating the cottage meetings. Attendees to the meetings have found them interesting and even a community builder as they sit and share with Westsiders they may not always have time to converse with.



These meetings continue through the end of Sept. and early Oct. Please look us up to attend if you haven't already.

Note in the dates below that everyone is receiving a survey to take, another important component in helping the MSC determine the best ministerial candidate for Westside.

The MSC thanks you for engaging in this vital search process!

Save these Dates:

Aug. 26 – Sept. 26 – Congregational Survey

Aug. 29 - Beyond Categorical Thinking Workshop – 2-5 pm at the church.

Aug. 30 – Beyond Categorical Thinking Reflection