

Ministerial Search Committee

Your Search Committee has started its process and has met three times in the last few weeks. We held an organizing meeting on January 3rd and met on January 27th with Rev. Pam Lucas. Pam is the Associate Conference Minister from the Vermont Conference and a valuable resource. We learned about the process we will use through a Search Committee Guide and a church profile outline. The group met again Feb. 10th, received individual responsibilities and started work on the profile. There was a dedication service on Sunday the 14th of February.

To understand what is happening an overview is provided below:

Overview of the search process

1. The Search Committee will develop a church profile which will describe your congregation, your community and ministerial needs.
2. A short description of your church will circulate in a monthly United Church of Christ (UCC) publication called Employment Opportunities. All persons seeking a pastoral call in the UCC use this publication.
3. Prospective pastoral candidates will request a copy of your church profile from the Vermont Conference Office.
4. Those candidates interested in your church will then ask the Vermont Conference Office to send their ministerial profile to your committee.
5. The Search Committee will study the profiles and choose to follow-up with those candidates who appear to have the qualities that match your church's needs by:
 - Checking references
 - Holding interviews
 - Observation of worship leadership and preaching
 - Making a final decision
6. The Search Committee will recommend a single candidate to the congregation at a duly called Congregational meeting.
 - Saturday night: informal potluck supper and sharing
 - Sunday morning: the candidate leads worship
 - Sunday after worship: the congregation votes
7. The new pastor arrives.

We are excited and anxious to get on with the process.