



UPDATE #2 - 02/21/23

Supporting the Work of the Call Committee

The Call Committee is coming together this week for our first meeting. We will spend this time getting to know one another a bit better. We will share our faith journeys and talk about why we feel called to this service and what we feel we can contribute to the process. In my conversation with each team member this past week, the thread that binds us is our collective passion for our church, our ministry, and our future.

Thank you for sharing in the commissioning of the Call Committee this past Sunday. “We promise with the help of God to embody the core values of our congregation, do the work with integrity, grace, and a spirit of hospitality; to be open and patient listeners to each other and the congregation.” These are powerful words, and we commit to bringing our best to this work.

We will appreciate your support in honoring our need for personal time and space, especially on Sundays when we come together for worship. We ask for your continued prayers as we begin the faith work of which we have been entrusted. Watch for further updates on upcoming listening sessions.

What you can do, starting now, to support the work of the call committee:

- Be intentional about praying daily for our congregation, staff and leaders for a good and healthy transition.
- Stay involved in our current ongoing efforts and programs. Help us all keep the focus on building up our strengths.
- Share your thoughts, questions, concerns and suggestions at appropriate times and in appropriate ways: during listening sessions, in emails, in conversations that occur at a mutually agreed upon time. Please respect the need for all of us to keep Sunday mornings focused on worship. Remember too, that committee members are committed to strict confidentiality.
- Connect with others in healthy ways. Take concerns and questions directly to the person or persons involved, or one of the designated leaders. Avoid starting or sharing rumors.
- Be the change you wish to see in the church! If you'd like to see more folks in church, invite them to come with you. If you think we could strengthen some aspect of our shared ministry, help us do that. If you have creative ideas, share them!
- Be attentive to and honest about your own needs. Reach out if you need pastoral care. Be aware of how you tend to deal with change – we all react differently.
- This is an especially important time for all of us to keep spiritual practices at the center of our lives and our life together: worshiping, practicing gratitude, extending grace to yourself and others, daily prayer or meditation, practicing forgiveness, showing compassion, encouraging and building up this Body of Christ in whatever ways you can.

—Robin Long