

## UPDATE #24

## **News from the Search Committee!**

Faith...when I was asked to chair the Call Committee, I started reading all the reference material I could get my hands on. What I read loud and clear was that in every step in the process, faith and discernment were essential, to pay attention, to listen for God speaking! Indeed, I learned more about my own faith and in their generous sharing, the faith of my colleagues during this process. I am grateful for this gift!

Listening to sermons and reading Statements of Faith requires attentiveness, an openness to discovery, and thoughtful discernment. Do we understand the intent of the message? Does the message resonate? Do we learn something about the candidate previously unknown?

We placed a good deal of weight on the sermon content and delivery and our understanding of the summary of spiritual beliefs and faith practices in Rev Amelia Fulbright's SOF. She shared this sentiment with us following our request for her Statement of Faith, "I especially connected with a description (on your website) of your congregation as a community that welcomes ALL PEOPLE across all kinds of spectrums, including the *in-betweens*. I feel this captures what so many of us experience and where so much of life happens - in between."

One of the references we spoke to shared, "Amelia is a voice for God's love for all people." Her Statement of Faith follows:

Statement of Faith

-Robin Long