



Email Sent to Congregation 5-9-2017

The Senior Minister Search Committee has been busy. While you have not heard much from us in over the last couple of months, we have been busy building the framework for our movement forward. The hardest part was creating the church profile to submit along with job opening. We had to describe our city, our church, and our desired characteristics in our next minister. It was a complete brain drain! Here is where the committee is today: the job opening has been posted with the Disciple Home Missions and we are collecting papers from interested candidates.

In order to keep our process as transparent as possible, we have published several pieces of interest on the UCC website. Namely, the summarized results from the congregational survey, a summary of the UCC profile and desired characteristics submitted for the job posting, and a marketing piece for interested candidates to learn about UCC and our members. These are all posted at <http://www.universitychristian.org/resources/senior-minister-search-committee/> for your review.

The committee is collecting papers from interested candidates and will begin contacting possible candidates to gauge their interest. This is where the help of the congregation is needed. Although we have received several names already, we ask that if there is a qualified you believe would be a good for UCC, please contact them directly and point to the website shown above. If a qualified candidate hears from someone they know, they are more likely to be receptive of the invitation to consider the opportunity. If you want to recommend someone you do not know, please submit their information to the committee via the comment form on the website (link shown above). Above all – please remember your candidate’s sensitivity to confidentiality. Whether a minister is interested in our opportunity or not, we need to remember there may be a congregation who would be alarmed to hear their minister is considering leaving. Please keep conversations private to keep unnecessary issues from arising for these ministers.

Lastly, as a committee, we ask that you continue to pray for the committee, the church, and our new minister. The committee asks for prayers of wisdom and discernment. As our church moves through this transition, we ask for prayers of unity, cooperation, and understanding.

Our new minister might be struggling with leaving his/her current congregation and moving a family to a new city. Please keep all of us in your prayers! And thank you to our Elders for praying for us every Sunday in service. We appreciate the reminder that our committee is hard at work behind the scenes.

God bless,
Danyelle Williams Ackall
H Lee Nelson
Co-Chairs, Senior Minister Search Committee