

Dear Church Family –

We have finished praying through Psalm 119. For the last 10 months, our meetings have begun with a section from this prayer-filled song that is written in the form of an acrostic of the Hebrew alphabet. While each of us have expressed hope that we'd find our next lead pastor before we completed the chapter, we have also been blessed by it throughout these months. Psalm 119 is a beautiful tribute to the word of God and the psalmist praises God for gifts of wisdom and guidance that He gives His people, even as He reveals Himself to us. We don't yet know the answer to the question that convenes our committee every other week, but we were reminded again and again as we prayed through this chapter that God knows who He has planned to lead our church and that we need to continue seeking His path and guidance as we wait on His timing.

We know you pray for us. What passages of Scripture do you use when you pray for us? We would love to pray alongside you from those same chapters and verses.

We continue through various stages of review and interview with a number of candidates. We are so excited to see what the Lord is doing in our church body during this interim period, and we are sharing this with our candidates as we speak with them and together pursue the goal of finding a good fit. Our consultant, Josh, guides us well, such as suggesting questions we should be asking in interviews that help us find out the necessary mix of skills and history in preaching, shepherding, and leadership. We are unified in our overarching goal of seeking a pastor who galvanizes us in our various ministries and leads us in knowing and loving each other as we point each other to Christ.

April office hours are next Sunday, April 30, during the Sunday school hour. Come see us in the office building; we'd love to talk with you. Or, perhaps, we can pray through a Scripture passage together. We have found praying with visitors in these segments has been mutually encouraging.

In Christ,

The Pastoral Search Committee (Dave Burbridge, Cindy Fitzgerald, Sarah Jones, Rob Joss, Russ Queen, Nina Walters, and Becki Whetsel)

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