



February 16, 2014

Pastoral Search FAQ

Your Pastor Search Committee [Dave Dunlap, Jim Fiala, Bill Gladney (chair), Jeff Lindstrom, Bob Mark (vice chair), Shelley Milligan, Neal Nielsen, Ellen Schmidt (secretary), and Barb Wait] is seeking God's leading and direction for our next senior pastor.

Q: How is the search committee preparing for the search?

A: The committee meets most Sunday mornings at 8 a.m. As a committee, we have spoken and continue to speak with a variety of people who have experience leading or participating in similar searches. In addition, the committee has been reading a variety of books, including:

In Search of a Leader by Robert W. Dingman

Preachers and Preaching by D. Martin Lloyd-Jones

What Is Your Church's Personality? by Philip Douglass

Dangerous Calling by Paul David Tripp

Q: How can the congregation get involved?

A: Most importantly, please be in prayer for the search process. Our primary prayer is that the congregation and the committee will seek the Lord first and foremost and that we will continue to yield to his merciful leading and wisdom.

There is also a faithful group that gathers every Sunday morning in the Prayer Room from 8:30-9:30. A main focus of their time together is prayer for the senior pastor search process, and you are invited to join them.

The search committee has also created a survey to be given to the congregation in a few weeks. The goal of the survey is to get a clear picture of the make-up of our congregation and the priorities of our people. This will be invaluable in making sure that we recommend a leader who is a good fit for Central.

Q: Are you considering recommending Pastor Stiller to be our next senior pastor?

A: Many people have shared with us their belief that Eric is a worthy candidate for this position. We agree that Pastor Stiller is an outstanding preacher/pastor. We are very thankful for his humble spirit and inspiring sermons. However, the EPC Book of Government specifically states (Chapter 11-7-44) that "A person serving as Assistant Pastor on the same church staff at the time the pastor position becomes vacant shall not be called to fill that position in the same church, by any means." Thus, we are unable to consider Pastor Stiller for the senior pastor position.

Q: To whom do I give a name if I have a candidate to recommend?

A: We have not yet begun contacting specific candidates, but our committee welcomes prayerfully considered nominations. We commit to diligently consider each one. You may email your recommendations to the committee at pastorsearch@centralpres.com.