

Call Committee

Members: Char Bohnsack, Ruth Duquaine, Joanne Talaska, Dan Fee, Bob Martin, and Bruce Schierstedt. Alternates: Christine Carew and Jackie Whitenack.

The committee met at least twice each month until December, when we put meetings on hold until January 11. In total, we have met eight (8) times.

We met on September 8 for the purpose of meeting with Assistant Bishop Amy Engebose of our synod for orientation. Before the meeting each member and alternate received a packet from Pastor Amy containing all the material the committee would need to proceed. After the Asst. Bishop left us we elected Dan Fee and Bob Martin co-chairmen.

Our next meeting focused on rereading and understanding all of the packet and the forms contained therein.

Subsequent meetings have dealt with formulating questions we would ask in an interview, using as a basis the sample questions in the packet. Each member and alternate submitted questions which were then cross-referenced and collated, forming the questions we will use in interviews. All candidates will be asked the exact same questions. Also we have conducted a modified mock interview to assess the validity of the questions. Questions the candidate might ask of us also are being discussed.

We will be meeting on January 11, 2021, to discuss further how we will respond to candidates' questions and how today's technology will figure into the process. Also in that meeting we shall formulate a response to the Council's request for "dreaming/the big picture."

An Update as of April 30

Since the meeting in January, the Call Committee has met seven (7) times, including two interviews with a candidate. The co-chairmen have met with the bishop of our synod twice by Zoom. The process keeps moving forward, even though at times it seems that everything is stalled. It is a slow process, but the call committee continues to be dedicated to this hard work for Church of Our Saviour.

The committee interviewed a potential pastor twice, the first by Zoom and the second in-person. We gave the candidate a tour of Fond du Lac and our church and spent some time socially with the spouse present. Ultimately, however, we released the candidate as not the best fit for our church.

We are now awaiting other candidates' names from the synod and look forward to continuing this vital ministry.