

## In Search of...

As we look to the future of the Church without Rev. John Rodgers at the Pastoral helm, we need to begin the process of preparing for a new Senior Pastor. One of the most important steps in this process is selecting a Search Committee to identify and interview potential candidates, and recommend to the Congregation a candidate to become our new pastor.

It is important that we organize a Search Committee that represents as much diversity as possible. All major areas of our church need to be represented: women and men, young and old, new and long-time members, all with involvement in varied aspects of church life, committees and groups. "All are welcome."

To serve on the Search Committee is an honor and a major commitment. Committee members will be responsible for the task of looking for a candidate that is best for the **entire** congregation. Search Committee members need to work with others, listening thoughtfully to all points of view, share opinions clearly and openly, make decisions by consensus, and understand that this is a serious commitment of time and energy. This process can take from 9-18 months and may involve weekly meetings. The search committee, working with the UCC Association Minister, will research many candidates, interviewing those they feel will be best-suited for the church, and ultimately bringing the congregation a candidate for all of us to select as our new Senior Pastor.

Church Council expects to select 10-15 people for the search committee. If you are interested in serving, please submit your name, along with a brief overview of your background here at CUCC (and previous Churches), and explain why you want to be part of this committee. If you know of someone that you would like to nominate to the committee, please provide their contact information and reasons why you think they would be an asset to the group. Not all nominees will be selected.

We ask that nominations be submitted by the **end of September**. A sub-committee within the Church Council will review all submissions and make a recommendation to the full Council for final selection. This process, in itself, is a lengthy task and that is why we are making this request now.

The results of the Shared Ministry vote on September 21<sup>st</sup> will determine the actual timeframe a search committee is formed. We feel it is best to be prepared for all possibilities.

If you have questions about this process please contact me. You can leave a message at the Church office, to my attention or email me directly at [jspeck@promac.com](mailto:jspeck@promac.com). If you would like to place your name, or the name of another member into nomination for the Search Committee please submit the online form via the website: [cuccstc.org](http://cuccstc.org). Go to Downloads, Pastoral Transition Documents and click on the link in the first paragraph at the top of that page. You may also download and print a copy of the nomination form near the bottom of the same page, or pick up a paper copy in the Church office should you prefer to fill it out by hand.

Respectfully,

John Speck