

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE TO AUC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

April 6, 2025

We, the members of the Pastoral Search Committee, have committed to providing you with periodic updates on our progress towards finding a new minister to replace Revs. Andy and Lorraine upon their retirement this year. I am speaking with you today to provide a brief report on our efforts to date.

Through expressions of interest sent to us directly and an ongoing search of postings listed on the United Church of Canada's ChurchHub, we have identified some potential candidates that on paper match the requirements described in our Congregational Profile. These candidates are being contacted to determine if they would wish to be formally considered for the position and possibly be invited to an interview. We have received some positive responses and are starting to conduct initial interviews.

Even though we are starting to conduct interviews, we are continuing to scan ChurchHub and to be open to further expressions of interest. Unlike a hiring process in the business world with a set date for the submission of applications, our process is an evolving one in which our focus is on finding the best fit for us as a congregation and not on being constrained by an established due date. We will continue with the identification of potential candidates as we carry out interviews and will not come forward to the congregation with a recommendation until we are certain in our own minds as a committee that we have found the candidate best suited to the current needs and future aspirations of our congregation.

We are working through this process in a very deliberate and mindful way. We will not be rushed in making a decision which may well mean that we will have an interim supply minister for a period of time. It is important that we get this decision right.

This year is a defining one for AUC with the retirement of Revs. Andy and Lorraine, the opening of our new church home and the calling of a new minister. I, as Chair, and the members of the Search Committee value your continued support and understanding as we move ahead with our work. I will continue to report back with further progress.

We thank you for your prayers and continued support as we continue the journey.

God Bless.