

Call Committee Update: 11/8/20

Call Committee Members: Abbey Rineer, Anita Kupp, Connie Taylor, Sue Knauer, Lowell Haws, Dave Sauder

General Info:

- The team has met 4 times since being appointed to the call committee and have been following a weekly cadence to get the call process underway
- At our initial meeting Pastor Strause stressed the importance of prayer throughout the process. The team has selected a Chaplain (Lowell Haws) and Lowell opens each meeting with scripture and prayer
- The committee asks for the congregation's prayers for wisdom, guidance, open hearts and minds, our congregation, the call process and our future candidates
- Dave Sauder was nominated and approved as Chairman of the Committee

Current Activities:

- Currently the call committee is working on populating a **Ministry Site Profile (MSP)**
- The MSP will provide insight into our community, our Church history, our congregation, or current state of affairs and our future goals and visions
- The MSP will be used by the Synod to select candidates for our church, by the candidates to understand our church environment and by the call committee and council to evaluate candidates as they are interviewed
- We will be reaching out to Church Council, Committees and the Congregation to assist in populating the MSP
- The MSP will be shared along the way as it gets populated, and can be viewed by the Congregation in the coming months
- The MSP will need to be approved by the Church Council and the Synod

Next Steps:

- A congregation survey will be sent out in the next week. There will be two different options to complete the survey, a paper version and an electronic version. The electronic version will arrive in email. The printed version will be available at the Church and also sent out in the Newsletter. We will be asking each confirmed member to complete the survey within a 4 week period.
- After compiling the survey results we will share them with the congregation and take the final steps in completing the Ministry Site Profile
- After approval of the MSP, we will be prepared for the interview process
- We will be provided 3 candidates at a time. After interviewing, if we decide to go farther with any candidates, the next step will be to go onsite to observe a candidate conduct a worship service
- If a unanimous decision is made to move forward, the candidate will then be presented to Church Council for interview and approval
- If Church Council approves the candidate, the candidate will conduct a Worship Service at Swamp Lutheran Church. At that time, our church will vote on the candidate.
- If we receive majority approval (66% or greater) we will offer the Pastor a position at Swamp Lutheran Church. If we receive less than majority approval, the interview process will start over with a set of 3 new candidates.

We will continue providing monthly updates along the way. We thank you for your prayers, patience and support during this important process and selection of our next Pastor.

Swamp Lutheran Church Call Committee