



This Sunday: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

I would like to take the next few weeks to answer questions about the Interim time.

Now we come to the third question.

How long does it take to find a new pastor?



In this area, it seems to take between 6 months and a year for the average congregation.

The first part is preparing the Congregational Profile. This asks about your church, your history, your community, and what special gifts and abilities you are seeking in a new pastor. Even if it has only been a few years since your last Call, this should take some time to complete. After the Call Committee has prepared this, they will often share it with the Council for their review. The Council may or may not make suggestions.

This Profile then goes to the Synod. They will often come out and meet with the Call Committee to ask questions and make sure that they understand everything in the profile. The Bishop will then go through the list of pastors who are interested in serving in our Synod to find likely matches for your profile. Once they have identified likely candidates, they will contact those pastors to see if they are interested in being considered at your church. These names are then brought to your Call Committee.

Now it is the job of the Call Committee to review the pastors' profiles, and decide if they are interested in interviewing them. These days, you are likely to get the names of some pastors serving in other parts of the country. In the last few years, I have seen Call Committees hold initial interviews over Skype. They will then decide who they want to interview in person. This is an economically prudent way to do things, because the church is expected to pay the transportation and lodging of the pastors interviewed.

After in person interviews, the Call Committee will often make a decision on which pastoral candidate they want to pursue further. If it is practical, they may invite the pastor to a second meeting, with the chance for the Council and others to meet the person as well. They will often go and attend services where the pastor is already serving, or ask for a video of them leading worship and preaching.

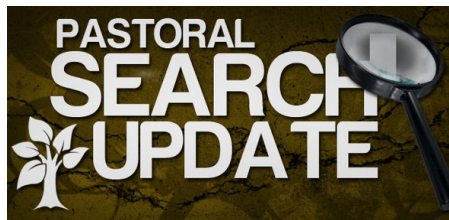
If everything goes well, the Call Committee now asks the Council to call a Congregational meeting. At this meeting, the Call Committee will make their recommendation to the congregation, and the whole church has the chance to hear about the pastoral candidate, and vote on extending a Letter of Call.

The pastor will receive the Letter of Call, and then has to decide whether to accept it or not. If they accept it, they must give 4 weeks notice to the congregation they are serving that they are leaving.

Add all of this up, and you can see that this does not happen over night.

Pastor Collier

Pastoral Call Committee Update



First and foremost, we ask for your prayers and input as we move forward. It is our goal to meet weekly and to update you each week in the Weekly Bread and Church Bulletin.

We are asking everyone in the congregation to provide your input by taking five minutes to complete the survey.

You are invited to use the electronic version by selecting the link below or fill out printed copies that will be available after each service. Please return your completed survey by or before Thursday, February 20th.

[Click here to take survey](#)

This survey will help us match our needs with prospective pastors' gifts. It is absolutely vital that you respond, we would like a 100% response from everyone. We need to have your response quickly so we can develop our congregational profile.

Your call committee invites you to contact any of us with your concerns and/or recommendations.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve,

Phil Fish, Chair Call Committee
608.203.5160 or pfish@fishassoc.com

Men's Homeless Shelter Meal



St. Martin's will again be serving the evening meal for 80-100 people at the Men's Homeless Shelter at 6:30 pm on Thursday, February 13. Volunteers are needed to make food (main dish, salad, and dessert) and to serve. We are usually done about 9 pm. There is a sign up sheet located in the narthex. Contact Doris Fish at 203-5160 if you have questions.

Middleton Outreach Ministry Update

MOM continues to be in need of Winter attire, boots, snow pants and all types of bedding (blankets, sheets, towels). Please bring to church and place in barrel in narthex.



If you are part of a group or want to form a group to participate in MOM's annual fantastic CANstruction event, please do! MOM is "Going for the Gold in the Olympic feat to end hunger in our community. Register your Canstruction@ Madison Team today! The event is held on Thursday May 1st. Create your own CANstruction project using food cans which are then donated to fight hunger.

MOM current volunteer needs (volunteer application and interview required):

- o Drivers for Senior Transportation Program (weekdays: 2 hours) – URGENT need
- o Food Pantry/Clothing Center - URGENT need for Friday volunteers
- o Cleaners in the Food Pantry (Afternoons: Mondays thru Thursdays)
- o Seniors Chores (monthly, weekly or as needed)

Fun at TGIF Night Out



We had an awesome time playing games, singing karaoke, snacking and watching Dispicable Me 2 on the big screen. Have your great kid's join the fun for our next event (details below) and enjoy a night out to recharge your battery.

Our ministry provides free child care on Friday nights on the last Friday of each month for families in our community who need a night out. Our groups are comprised of infants to children about 10 years old. Our next event is scheduled for Friday, February 28 from 6 to 10 pm. Please sign up by Wednesday, February 26 by contacting Sharon at om@stmartinssp.org or 798-2777.

Legacy Endowment Fund Update



With the Holy Spirit present at our Annual Meeting, the St. Martin's congregation began our journey to establish the St. Martin's Legacy Endowment. Initial efforts by the ad hoc Legacy Endowment Team were recognized. The congregation moved unanimously to approve the formation of the fund, and to begin the process to finalize the mission statement and by-laws efforts.

We are planning to expand the ad hoc team and formalize the process and goals for the Legacy Endowment team. We are looking for interested congregational members to join with the Legacy Endowment Team to contribute in the planning process. Bob Nelson had a chance to meet with Regional Gift Planner from the ELCA Foundation, Pr. Larry Westfield, to explore resources and strategies for process development and promoting planned giving.

We plan to keep you posted on our activities in the weekly bread and service bulletins. If you have any questions or would like to join our group, please contact Bob Nelson at 798-2964 (home), 516-5655 (Cell), or rnelson130@charter.net (e-mail).

In His Service,

Bob Nelson
St. Martin's Endowment Legacy Team

Church Calendar for February 9 - February 15

Sunday, February 9

7:45 a. Choir Practice S
8:30 a. Traditional Blend Worship
9:45 a. GIFT Christian Ed FH
10:15 a. New Rhythm Worship
12:00 p. Crafting Group FH

Monday, February 10

9:00 a. 4K Kids Arrive
9:30 a. Quilting Group FH
11:30 a. 4K Kids Depart
6:30 p. Berry Historical Society FH
7:00 p. Soul Purpose S

Tuesday, February 11

6:30 a. Men's Bible Study
9:00 a. 4K Kids Arrive
11:30 a. 4K Kids Depart
6:30 p. Worship Planning Team L
7:00 p. Boy Scout Troop 87 FH
7:00 p. Centering Prayer S

Wednesday, February 12

9:00 a. 4K Kids Arrive
10:30 a. Staff Meeting
11:30 a. 4K Kids Depart
6:30 p. Confirmation Movie Night YR
7:30 p. Choir Practice MR

Thursday, February 13

9:00 a. 4K Kids Arrive
11:30 a. 4K Kids Depart
6:30 p. New Rhythm Band Practice S
6:30 p. Men's Homeless Shelter OS
6:30 p. Sr. High Youth Group YR
7:00 p. Women's Bible Study L

Friday, February 14

9:00 a. 4K Kids Arrive



11:30 a. 4K Kids Depart

Saturday, February 15

9:00 a. Overeaters Anonymous LL

S—Sanctuary; L—Library; B—Building; _MR—Music Room; FH—Fellowship Hall; CR—Choir Room; OS—Off Site; N—Nursery; PG—Prayer Garden; GLC—Gunderson Life Center; YR—Youth Room; LL—Lower Level Classroom

Worship Participants for Sunday, February 9



Postle

Jr. Usher (10:15) Kevin Houck

Nursery Henry Hartung

Counting Team 5

Altar Guild (8:30) Patty Hillebrand

(10:15) Patty Hillebrand

AV (8:30) open (10:15) James Hartung

Coffee Karen Trappe

Presiding Minister Pastor Rich Collier

Accompanist & Musicians (8:30) Mary

Vassalotti (10:15) New Rhythm Band

Song Leaders (8:30) St. Martin's Choir

(10:15) New Rhythm Band

Lectors (8:30) Cathy Kittle (10:15) Jen

Niesen

Communion Assistants (8:30) Cathy

Kittle (10:15) Jen Niesen, Jeff & Diana

Postle

Ushers (8:30) Horst Gierke & Deb

Wipperfurth (10:15) Todd & Sue Duhr

Acolytes (8:30) Ella Rogers (10:15) Tess

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