

OSC Senior Minister Search Committee Update  
July 17, 2022

Fourteen of us were invited and commissioned by the church council in May, and blessed by the congregation in June to serve as members of a search committee to find the 21st senior minister for Old South Church. We are humbled by the trust that has been placed in us and engaging this sacred work prayerfully. We have started our work this summer as learners.

- We are learning about one another – sharing our stories, developing the kind of relationships that will allow us to listen deeply to one another, to have honest and respectful disagreement, and to make good decisions. We wrote and committed ourselves to this covenant, a living document that will allow us to be intentional about our interactions as a team.
- We are learning about the church. A commissioned transition committee worked faithfully over the course of several months during the spring to conduct listening sessions across the congregation and solicit direct input through survey and interview. The team compiled a 45-page profile of the church that will serve as the job description we will use to recruit a new minister. We have immersed ourselves in this beautiful document, which describes a past we are rightfully proud of and the bold, prophetic future we imagine.
- We are learning about the process of calling a senior minister within the United Church of Christ, meeting with our conference leadership to map out the steps we will follow and to outline a timeline for our work. We are learning about best practices for offering a wide welcome to a diverse pool of potential candidates and ensuring that every candidate is treated with respect.

Though maintaining confidentiality about our conversations and specific candidates is critically important, we are also committed to sharing what we can with the congregation about our progress every month. We plan to release the profile and job description in September and anticipate beginning to review applications from potential candidates this fall. The journey with potential candidates has several steps, including review of application materials, interview, conversation with references, and hearing them preach. Throughout the process, we are committed to listening for God's still speaking voice, showing us the way. Please keep us in your prayers.