

## Appendix 6A – Recommending a Final Candidate

As your committee engages in the process of selecting one candidate whose name will be recommended to the congregation council, it will be important to do several things:

1. Ask again for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
2. Review and clarify earlier understandings of what it means for the committee to reach a consensus.
3. Allow ample time for each call committee member to speak and be heard.
4. Come to a decision measured against the leadership needs of the congregation.
5. Choose the most suitable candidate, not necessarily the one you think is most likely to accept the call.
6. While listening to your own heart and impressions, go beyond asking, “Which candidate do I favor?” to ask, “Which minister can best serve our congregation?”

In most congregations, the expectation is that once the call committee has decided upon a candidate to recommend, a meeting of the congregation council is called. The entire call committee or only the chair of the committee may be present at this meeting. Careful preparation by the call committee members chosen to present the candidate is important. Thorough information about the candidate, with ample opportunity for dialogue between the call committee and the council, will enable the congregation council to come to a decision regarding concurrence with the call committee’s recommendation.

If the candidate being recommended lives nearby, the congregation council might consider asking him/her (with spouse), to meet for an evening of informal conversation with members of the council and their spouses. This can be a good opportunity for the candidate to gain a broader perspective of the congregation and their ministry.