

ANSWERING OUR CALL

Search Process for our Rector
Episcopal Church of the Ascension

SEARCH PROCESS

- Vestry meets with Diocesan Calling Coach to begin process. **COMPLETE**
- Appoint Calling Committee and develop parish profile.
- Distribute parish profile nationwide.
- Review candidates and conduct interviews (at current parishes and at Ascension).
- Present “proposed Rector-elect” to Bishop and Vestry.
- Welcome new Rector.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Vestry
 - Elect and call a new Rector.
 - Work with the Diocesan Calling Coach.
 - Identify an Interim Rector.
 - Develop and oversee budget for process.
 - Appoint a Calling Committee Chairperson.
 - Create a Calling Committee with the selected Chairperson.
 - Complete a Community Profile for the search data base.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Calling Committee
 - Meet with Calling Coach to review responsibilities and process.
 - Gather data to complete detailed Parish Profile for the narrative portion of the community profile (begun by the vestry).
 - Review profiles of interested candidates and conduct initial interviews.
 - Make visits to narrowed list of candidates at their current parishes.
 - Coordinate on-site visits to Ascension for no more than three candidates.
 - Discern and present “proposed Rector-elect” to Bishop and Vestry.

TIMELINE

- September 2017
 - Manage transition process for Rector's departure.
 - Ensure resources are in place to maintain parish activities and services.
 - Plan farewell for Rector and welcome for Interim Rector
- October 2017
 - Vestry employs supply priests for four Sundays following Rector's departure.
 - Calling Committee is formed and begins its work.
 - Vestry identifies and hires an Interim Rector.
- November 2017 until new Rector called
 - Interim Rector supports Ascension on full-time basis.
 - Deacon Jane Ellis continues her role and supports Interim Rector as needed.
 - Election for new vestry members held.
 - Calling Committee works with Calling Coach to discern new Rector.

COMMITMENTS

- Vestry makes the following commitments to the parish:
 - Maintain the activities and services provided at their current levels.
 - Enlist Deacon Ellis
 - Lead Thursday Bible Study
 - Continue pastoral care and counseling
 - Schedule at least one Sunday per month to deliver sermon
 - Have Vestry Person on Duty visible every Sunday during search process
 - Create an informational bulletin board on the Rector's board during search process.

PRAYER FOR CALLING NEW RECTOR

Almighty God, giver of every good gift,
Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds
Of those who shall choose a rector for Ascension,
That we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people
And equip us for our ministries.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.