

Topsail United Church Search and Selection Committee Status Report and New Minister Recommendation

Date: August 18, 2020

TUC Search and Selection Committee (TUC-S&SC):

Bob Bennett, Rosalind Foley, Allan Parsons, Wanda Sanders, Cle Callan,
Tania Cave, Noel Brissard and Emma Orourke (Regional Liaison).

Search and Selection Committee Synopsis

The TUC-S&SC was nominated and elected at a congregational meeting facilitated by the TUC Transition Committee early 2020. Emma Orourke was later assigned by the Region to act as the Regional Liaison for the committee and assist with implementing and executing the Search and Selection process and procedures as outlined in the Pastoral Relations Guidelines for Search and Selection of a new minister. The S&SC team began meeting weekly via Zoom late May and began the process of a formal search via the United Church HUB website and relevant monthly newsletters. We accepted applications for the ministry posting until the end of July. We received a note of interest from a number of applicants. The S&SC team reviewed and assessed the profiles and associated information for all applicants and came to the consensus to interview three. After conducting these three interviews the team unanimously agreed on who was the lead candidate and proceeded to engage the character/professional references that had been provided by the lead candidate. After a thorough review and assessment of the reference's responses and highlights from the lead candidates interview it was unanimously agreed to proceed with making an offer to the lead candidate. The offer (remuneration package) was sanctioned by the TUC Governing Board and then presented to the lead candidate by two members of the S&SC. The final offer was accepted by the selected candidate which now enables the S&SC to compile this report and recommendation to the TUC board and congregation.

S&SC Observations of Key Attributes of the Selected New Minister that meet TUC's Worship Objectives and Future Requirements:

- Believes worship is a connecting force between a minister and God's people
- Important to praise God as a community, likes all ages to be together with guidance coming from both the minister and the people
 - Liberal in theology, honours people where they are, inclusive in ministry
- Likes a mixture of the "old and new", desires well planned and integrated worship with ministry team
- Very forward thinking, innovative/creative in preaching. Loves to write liturgy
- Strong leadership skills - is well organized - knows what has to be done and is very upfront, at the same time a good team member -- has a philosophy "Just do it"
- Very approachable, very caring, very empathetic
- Pleasing personality, good sense of humour and makes friends easily
- Regards Pastoral Care as especially important and most humbling part of ministry - "Jesus says, take care of each other." Interested in forming Pastoral Care Team
- Has background in community outreach
- Call to ministry was inspired by youth
 - experience and interest in youth curriculum and family activities within the church
 - also likes to be visible to Sunday School children while others lead church service
- Interested in digital ministry, and evolving how worship is delivered

The search Committee believes that the selected candidate is a very faithful dedicated individual and we have a high level of confidence that this person will be a natural fit to our community of faith today and into the future.