

Regional Search Committee

Oct. 3, 2008

First let me start with much gratitude for all the prayers, well wishes and emotional/mental support for the search committee. We do feel the support of the region as we journey through this process and appreciate your good thoughts for our work.

Sept. 6th the search committee met with our General Minister, Sharon Watkins at the regional office. I'm so happy to say that every member of the committee was able to attend the meeting. Sharon trained us in the different steps that we will be working through. The College of Regional Ministers have been requested to work along side of Sharon on search and call. A Regional Minister is assigned to each region that is in the process. Currently I believe there are 6 regions looking at this time. Search and call is a demanding program on Sharon's time and to have additional staff available for the commitments may speed up the process. Trying to get on Sharon's calendar is a challenge to say the least. The Regional Minister assigned to us is Cathy Myers-Wirt, Co-Regional Minister from Oregon. She works as a resource for us on process issues. Our committee agreed that we would not share candidate names with Cathy for confidentiality issues.

As of this writing we have received 6 sets of papers from candidates seeking the position of Regional Minister for the NW Region and emails of interest from 3 more. I have sent each of the email requests to the General Church Search & Call office and reminded them that we posted in all of our press, that we would only receive papers through the general church process.

We are using the executive search model which means: We have a professional human resource consultant working with us who will receive all the applications at one time. This person is to "grade" the papers as highly qualified, qualified or not qualified. The committee will not view the not qualified papers. Even though we have received papers from candidates, the members of the committee do not see these papers at this time.

Our dead line for receiving papers to the General Church Office of Search and Call is midnight Oct. 31. If a background search still needs to be ordered, we have allowed time for that process. Then all papers will be sent to our consultant and he will begin his work at that time.

Currently the committee is using the conference call system to finish some writings. We are finishing up a check list for the consultant to use. We want to make sure he has good tools to get a very clear picture of our goals and priorities for our next Regional Minister and President. He will be using our job description, description of the NW region, the job announcement, the Mission & Vision statement as resources along with our check list.

Our next project is to write a number questions to use while calling references. These same questions will be asked of each reference and will be used as one of our tools for the process.

We ask that you and region continue to keep the members of the search committee and Sharon Watkins in your prayers.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Starkey Chair

Committee Members

Edie Rice-Sauer Rise
Shilo Barker Youth
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Bill Robey
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Chris Harvey
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