



MAYFLOWER

Congregational Church

Dear Mayflower Friends,

February 19, 2021

Things are progressing for the Search Committee. We were presented with four finalists by our consultant, Vanderbloemen, after they had reviewed over thirty interested candidates and culled it down to a viable group that fit Mayflower's profile and requirements for a new leader.

After reviewing their introduction videos, sermon samples, and resumes, we reduced the finalists to three individuals and did an hour-long interview via Zoom with each candidate. Following the initial interview, we determined that one of the candidates was not a good fit for Mayflower and released him from consideration. With two finalists remaining, the committee made the decision, that in spite of Covid, we needed to meet and talk with each of them in person.

This week, we met one of the candidates and are in discussion about our impressions following the meeting. Due to the fact that the other candidate is located out of state, we had more of a challenge coordinating schedules to bring him to Grand Rapids which will not happen until the end of March. However, in the interim, we will be connecting with him via Zoom, to keep the process moving.

While this is not going as quickly as everyone would like it to, we are working the process and doing so with each of you in mind. We are truly taking a deep dive into the backgrounds and suitability of each candidate, and do so with the whole of Mayflower in mind. The decisions we are making are more than intellectual, more than mindful, they are spiritual—and those are the most challenging and difficult to make.

Though we don't know, at this time, when we will have a senior minister to call to Mayflower; please know that the committee is committed to putting in the time and energy required of such an important task. We are searching our hearts and souls and praying for God's guidance with the knowledge that our new spiritual leader will be chosen in His time. Please continue to pray for us to have wisdom and discernment and to listen for God to whisper in our ear and touch the Holy Spirit within us.

Blessings,

Ginger Young
Search Committee Chairperson