



Grace Church Presbyterian Pastoral Search Committee | Congregational Update

October 23, 2022

Grace Church,

Your committee has had an eventful month! We met six times since the last update, and have worked effectively together to move candidates through the steps. Two candidates have applied in addition to the candidate who applied last month. All three are compelling candidates, however the committee recently decided not to move forward with one of them. There are two candidates in our process - we are reviewing the written materials of one and are reaching out for the first round of references with the other. The decision not to move forward with the third was difficult, and while we all saw the positives and negatives differently, the Lord has given us a great spirit of fellowship and trust throughout our work. We are thrilled to have such a good flow through the process and collaborative effort.

We've taken care to maintain a high level of confidentiality in our work. This functions primarily to allow candidates to submit materials without having concerns about their current congregations hearing that they are applying elsewhere. Sometimes, a candidate may not be actively looking, but has been especially attracted by our posting. Grace church owes it to all our candidates to protect their relationships with their churches, especially in the case where they do not go all the way through to a formal candidating visit.

That being said, we have decided to relax our confidentiality around other facets of our work. While the committee will never discuss personally identifying information with anyone, including the session and our spouses, until the appropriate time (if ever), we are now free to discuss how many candidates we have, where they are in the process, and what the process looks like in its various steps. We will avoid any discussion about the relative merits or benefits of the candidates we have or have had - know that if candidates are moving through the process, it means the committee has a high degree of confidence in their qualifications and fit with Grace.

We ask that you continue to pray with us that God would provide the right candidate. Pray for the candidates that we have in the process, that both they and the committee will work effectively together to determine a good fit. Pray with us that we will maintain our energy and dedication to the task we have through the busier times, and let's thank the Lord that he's provided such good work for us! Please use the prayer guide for individual topics to present to God in prayer throughout this time of transition.

Grace Church 2022 Prayer Guide

Grace Church

- Spiritual lives of congregation
 - Our individual prayer lives
 - Our saturation in the Word
 - Our sense of community
 - Our service
 - Grace Monthly Giving

Ryan Hughs

- Sustain him in this time of pressures:
 - Pressures of ministry and leadership
 - Pressures and priorities of ministry v family v extended family
 - Pressures of the unknown future
 - New Lead Pastor/Teammate

PSC & Session

- Teamwork on the PSC
- Teamwork with Session & PSC
- Godly wisdom
- Communication with and support from Congregation

New Lead Pastor & Candidates

- Prepare them and their families
- Help them discern and refine your calling to them and alignment with Grace Fort Collins
- Guide us together through the search and selection process