

As we continue through this season of transition, we are preparing to form the Search Committee that will guide Brecksville UCC through the United Church of Christ Search and Call process for our next settled pastor.

This is sacred and important work. In the UCC, the search for a pastor is not simply a hiring process. It is a season of prayer, listening, discernment, and faithful attention to the congregation's identity, needs, hopes, and future.

Over the past several months, a great deal of congregational discernment has already taken place through the Mission Café sessions and surveys. Members and friends of Brecksville UCC have helped name who we are, who our neighbors are, what we value, what we hope for, and what kind of pastoral partnership may help us move faithfully into the future.

The Transition Team has been working to gather that congregational wisdom into the Brecksville UCC Local Church Profile. The Search Committee will use that profile as a primary guide in discerning potential candidates. In other words, the Search Committee will not begin from scratch. It will carry forward the wisdom, hopes, and honest reflections already offered by the congregation.

According to the Brecksville UCC Constitution, the Search Committee will consist of 7–9 people and should represent the broad life of the congregation. **We are now inviting nominations of people who may have the gifts to serve well on this committee!**

Those who serve on the Search Committee should be people who are trusted by the congregation and committed to Brecksville UCC's life and future. Important gifts include faithfulness, integrity, openness, good listening, respect for others, spiritual maturity, and the ability to work well with others. Because the search process involves candidates' personal and professional information, Search Committee members must also be able to maintain strict confidentiality. The congregation will be kept informed about the process, but candidate names and identifying details must remain confidential.

The Search Committee will work with the Living Water Association to receive and review candidate profiles, conduct interviews, check references, listen for the movement of the Spirit, and eventually recommend one candidate to the congregation for consideration.

Please prayerfully consider whom you believe may be called to serve in this way. Through the survey below, you may nominate yourself or another member of the congregation.

Thank you for helping Brecksville UCC take this next faithful step together.

1. YOUR NAME (REQUIRED)

2. Name of Nominee

3. What gifts, perspectives, or qualities would this person bring to the Search Committee? *You might consider qualities such as trust, confidentiality, listening, faithfulness, openness, spiritual maturity, and commitment to Brecksville UCC's future.*

4. What part or parts of congregational life would this person help represent? *For example: long-time members, newer members, families, youth/children's ministry, music, mission/outreach, leadership, fellowship, worship, or another part of Brecksville UCC's life.*

Please fill this out and leave it as a part of your offering today, unless you have completed the survey electronically

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