

January, 2014

*When will we
have a third pastor?*
Call Committee Update

The search continues...

Over the past year we have continued to meet with the synod office staff who are searching the country for possible pastors to be called as an associate pastor to St. Matthew's. The Bishop, Jeff Barrow, has described this time frame as a dry spell for good matching candidates. And so after speaking with approximately 12 pastors, formally interviewing two of the 12, we continue to prayerfully wait for new leads.

One new step for us is the addition of Pastor Fran Odden to our search team. Pastor Fran headed up our MET process in the beginning to help us prepare to search, and now he has come aboard to help us look for good candidates. Pastor Fran has already been actively engaged in the hunt, helping us move forward. His assistance and knowledge of the process will hopefully strengthen our search and result in a wonderful new pastoral addition to St. Matthew's staff.

Until that time when we find a new pastor, we have been utilizing the help of our retired pastors. They have been very helpful with our visitation ministry, Sunday morning liturgy and preaching, and also our adult education. We are blessed to have them helping in ministry here. We have also brought on several outside guest preachers to strengthen our preaching. Having new voices preach is always a blessing, and we look forward to several more new preachers in the next several months.

In the mean time, we also thank everyone in the congregation for their support of time and prayer. This ministry is all of ours, not just the pastors, and it continues to grow because we are all involved. Thank you for continuing to give as you to do help us reach out with the love of Christ.

Hopefully soon, God will reveal our new pastor, but until then we wait for the right person to arrive.

God's Peace, Pastor Chris