



January 12, 2026

Greetings from the Search Committee,

The Search Committee will soon begin the process of putting together our Church Profile. The profile will be used to attract potential pastoral candidates to become our next settled pastor. Our Church Profile is our way of letting potential candidates know who we are and who we think God is calling us to be. For us to ensure our Church Profile truly reflects all our beliefs and priorities, we need input from everyone in the congregation. We want to know what qualities you are looking for in our next pastor. We are planning opportunities for everyone to provide input for our Church Profile over the next couple of months.

The first opportunity will be to complete a survey called the *Pastoral Search Inventory*. This survey will be made available online and we will also have paper copies of the survey available. The survey should take about 30 minutes to complete. We would like everyone in the congregation to complete the survey.

The second opportunity will be a series of small group meetings to answer essential questions for the Church Profile. Each group will be asked to answer three questions: *Who are we? Who is our neighbor? Who is God calling us to be?* The small group meetings will be scheduled over several dates and times during the month of February. You only need to attend one meeting, but as you take time to reflect on your small group discussion and think of new ideas, you are welcome to attend more than one meeting or feel free to reach out to a Search Committee member.

When all this is completed, we will have an all church meeting to review and discuss the results of the surveys and small group meetings. This meeting is currently scheduled to be held after worship on Sunday March 8, 2026, in Fellowship Hall. The meeting will be attended by Reverend Leslie Jackson who is our Area Conference Minister from the Southern New England UCC. Rev. Jackson will lead a discussion and answer any questions concerning the Search and Call process. He has also offered to preach during worship that Sunday. *The meeting date is subject to change depending on how successful we are at collecting and processing the data from the survey and small group meetings.*

This is an exciting time for our congregation! We are hoping you are all able to participate.

Your Search Committee: Ken Burger (chair), Bonnie Denton, Vicky Difilippo, Sarah Hansen, Brian Johnson, Anita Merando, DeeDee O'Donnell and Beth Smith