

Town Hall Meeting

October 11, 2020

Input is needed for the upcoming dean search, and will be gathered via a church-wide survey and Town Hall meetings.

The survey will be sent out via email on Monday, October 12.

Questions for today:

As you think about the search for the new Dean what are your hopes?

1. Find someone who knows the congregation-focus on those who have not been involved and include them.
2. Looking for two characteristics: will have a personal relationship with God and willing to share that with us. Also, someone who believes and will continue our work with social justice issues.
3. Solid preaching skills
4. While new members are also welcome and needed including young people and families, please remember the older congregants too.
5. More pastoral care and engagement with the congregation.
6. Come with your biggest wildest dreams of who the Dean should be and put it on the survey.

Any concerns or watchouts?

1. About process: need to make sure the timeline is met. It is very important for the congregation to bring our Dean in
2. This person should not be concerned with the amount of money we have.
3. Discussion should be held around the use of the endowments including all members.
4. Pastoral care vs administration is important.

What do you see as our opportunities?

1. Is it possible to have a staff who is dedicated to giving pastoral care?
2. There is a precedent for a lay person being employed to give pastoral care.
3. We can have administrator as well as pastoral care because we can afford it.
4. The new Dean needs to know how he/she can be invested in the Next Century Vision.
5. Dean candidate should be able to express their commitment to the Vision.
6. The Next Century Vision is a document formed in the pre-COVID world which no longer exists. Co-Chairs Tom Kent and Diane Ebbs are aware of this and are working on this.

Questions/Comments

1. This is a huge and complex job. Thank you to the whole team for taking this on.
2. Pray for the search committee and those who are contemplating applying for the position.
3. Please remember that the survey has a section for comments. Please use this for your thoughts.
4. Stakeholders outside of the congregation will also be asked for input.
5. The Vestry has spoken with representatives from the Diocese regarding the present clergy and if they will be required to leave. Vestry was assured that they will not.