**“Meet & Greet” Agenda**

**(Church Council & the Pastoral Candidate)**

**Devotions**

A short devotion is led by a council member.

**Introductions**

Church Council members briefly introduce themselves to the candidate. This could include brief comments about family, place of employment, length of membership in the congregation, and how they have been involved in the ministry of the congregation over the years.

**Formal Introduction of Candidate**

The candidate would typically be introduced to the council by the Call Committee chairperson.

**Candidate time**

The candidate is invited to share something about him/herself. This may be the pastor’s call to ministry and journey he/she has taken since answering that call. The candidate may also wish to share some of his/her hopes & expectations for ministry in this new setting.

**Questions/Answers**

Church Council members are given some time to ask the candidate questions. This is not intended to be another “formal interview session” but council members may have some specific questions they would like answered to feel comfortable recommending this candidate for call to the congregation.

**Wrap-Up**

Goodbyes are said and the candidate is dismissed. The council president makes a commitment to be in contact with the candidate by the end of the day with the council’s decision to either recommend the candidate for call to the congregation or to dismiss the candidate.

**After the candidate is dismissed …**

**Council Vote**

The Church Council meeting is formally called to order. Discussion takes place to determine if the council members would like to proceed with the candidate who has been recommended by the Call Committee. A vote is then taken. If the vote is positive, a date/time for the congregational meeting is set to vote on the Letter of Call.

**Proposed Salary Review**

The council votes on a salary package for the candidate.

**Closing Prayer/Follow-Up**

Close the meeting with the Lord’s Prayer.

The president then notifies the candidate of the outcome of the vote. If the vote was favorable, invite the candidate to the congregational meeting when the candidate will be introduced and a vote on a call will be taken. Follow the Church Constitution to give proper announcement to the congregation on when and where the vote will be taken.

(revised 8/2022, mgh)