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Dear First Church Members,

On Sunday, October 15, 2023, I shared the next steps concerning pastoral leadership at First Church.

The Coordinating team has reviewed our church bylaws and also consulted the guidelines and best practices recommended by the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ. Having done so, it is our intention to proceed with a process for selecting a settled Senior Pastor.

So far, we have determined the following:

1. The **Coordinating Team will serve as the Selection Committee** (as opposed to Search Committee).
2. Congregational input is a vital part of the process. You are invited and encouraged to contact the Selection Committee to ask questions; to share your thoughts, hopes and wishes for our future. The **Selection Committee members** are Jenny Clark, Ginny Vocelli, Dave Simpson, Terry Schmitt, Diane Bohman, Barbara Lewis, Beverli Christensen, Linda Bronstein, Courtland Lewis, Bob Van Der Wende, and myself. Our contact information will be provided to you.
3. **Rev. Fredd is the candidate that we plan to consider** for the role of settled Senior Pastor. That anticipated nomination would be approved by congregational vote. We think the end of November is a reasonable time limit toward that end.

With God beside us, beneath us, and above us, I trust that our future will continue to unfold in amazing ways.

May it be so.

Wendy Wigglesworth

Moderator, First Church

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