

CANDIDATES COMMITTEE

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!" -- Isaiah 6:8

The Candidates Committee seeks to provide support, nurture, and communication among those who are under care as inquirers or candidates and to assist the Session in fostering its relationship to those members of the congregation who are pursuing ordination as Ministers of Word and Sacrament. Members of Session who are acting as liaisons to inquirers and candidates serve on the committee.

As part of its mission, the committee sponsors educational/fellowship gatherings for those under care, with a dual purpose of furthering their preparation for ministry and providing an opportunity for fellowship with other members of the congregation. Due to having limited members under care, and to the fact the majority of those do not live locally, the dynamic of the committee was changed this year. As a result, there were no educational/fellowship gatherings in 2010. In February, we met as a committee along with Mary O'Hara Smith, the Chair of the 2009 Candidates Committee, to discuss those under care.

In June and December, Barbara Davis accompanied Diane Ford as she appeared before Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) and was certified ready for a call. Jane Duffield applied for and was accepted to become a candidate in January 2010 and was accompanied by Sarah McCaslin to CPM in August when she was certified ready for a call. Kellie Anderson-Picallo was ordained in April 2010 and is serving as the Associate for Media and Education at Auburn Theological Seminary.

Other members under care are progressing on their journeys toward ordination. Alison Geiger and Letitia Campbell continue to be certified ready for a call. We have not taken any new members under care during 2010.

The intelligence, energy, and dedication of our candidates and the range of life experiences they bring to the task are awe-inspiring and humbling, and they are deserving of the best support we can provide.

Members:

Rev. Barbara Davis (staff liaison)
Jennifer Cooper Stelwagon, Chair

Submitted by: Jennifer Cooper Stelwagon, Chair