

## Pastor Search Update

By Kirk Bailey, Search Committee Chair

The search for a Senior Pastor has moved into the next phase. The Search Committee has narrowed its list of candidates to about 10 Senior and Associate Pastors of some of the 50 largest churches in our denomination. We have vetted these by listening to at least three of their sermons. We move now to learning as much as possible about their ministry history and their leadership capacity. This is a critical time in the search process. We must remain confidential about persons in whom we may be interested out of respect for the candidates' congregations.

Bishop Wills recently announced his retirement in September 2011. He has been a great advocate for us during our search, and we are confident that he will continue to support us as the search intensifies.

We are very pleased to share the faithfulness and generosity of our congregation with the candidates. Our financial situation and worship attendance increases are good news that has been received favorably. However, while we share with the candidates about the great opportunity at Christ Church, it is God's call that is the most important condition of the candidates' decision.

Please continue to pray for the Search Committee and the candidates, that we may clearly hear God's call to Christ Church. Join with others to pray for the pastor search after church on Sundays at Noon in Reeves Chapel.