

**SECOND REPORT OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD REGARDING
THE NOMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE FOR
ASSOCIATE GENERAL MINISTER**

On March 7, 2025, the United Church of Christ Board voted to nominate and recommend to the General Synod the election of Rev. Shari Prestemon for a term as Associate General Minister of the United Church of Christ, and submits its nomination for consideration by the delegates to the Thirty-Fifth General Synod, meeting July 11-15 in Kansas City, Missouri. The report of the search committee is attached.

Heather E. Kimmel
General Counsel and Corporate Secretary
March 13, 2025

LoN AGM Search Committee Report to the Board

The LoN AGM Search Committee's first meeting was held on September 10, 2024. Below is a timeline of our meetings.

September 10	First meeting of Committee
	The search announcement was released on September 3
October 10	Meeting to prepare interview questions and evaluation rubric.
November 15	Check in meeting to learn the number of applications received post close
December 17	Meeting to review applications and determine top 3 candidates
January 21	First Interview
February 13	Second Interview
March	Present candidate at UCCB meeting

The committee began their work on September 10 with a review of committee responsibilities and confidentiality. Our GMP reviewed the job description with us along with the required leadership qualifications. The search announcement was released on September 3 and was open until November 30, 2024.

At our October meeting using the shared job description and programmatic priorities, all members were asked to submit two questions they would like to ask all applicants. The programmatic priorities included Leadership Development, Spiritual Formation, Reshaping the Narrative, Strengthening the Church, Decolonization, and Climate Action. The questions were recapped and sent to the committee prior to our next meeting. We also discussed having each candidate provide a writing sample using scenarios that we agreed upon.

The November meeting was just a brief check-in meeting to get an update on the number of applicants received. We received 7 applications; 2 were complete, 3 were incomplete, 1 withdrew, and 1 did not meet the minimum requirements.

Of the two moving forward for consideration, one scored much lower on the screening rubric by the committee.

In December we reviewed the potential applicants' resumes/profiles and written samples and determined who would be invited for zoom interviews.

The interviews were scheduled for January. One candidate dropped out, so we only had one interview to conduct.

In January using the prepared interview questions rubric, we completed our first interview. However, we ran out of time to ask follow up questions. We decided to do a second interview which was held on February 13.

A second rubric was developed for our follow-up questions. After careful review of the responses given by Shari Prestemon, the committee strongly felt she was the right candidate and affirmed her as our candidate.

She has a passion and understanding for the work needed to be done as the LoN Associate General Minister. She has developed strong relationships with her partners in Global Ministries, her staff within each of her program areas, and is respected as a leader.

We are pleased to present Shari Prestemon to you as our candidate for the LoN Associate General Minister.

Committee Members:

Joyce Bathke – Chair

Judith Booker

Sana Delcorazon

Rev. Dan Doty

Rev. Freeman Palmer

Rev. Lawrence Richardson

Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson