

## **Did You Know?...**

Last month the Church Council approved the members of the Call Committee. They are: Chairperson – Cory Dellenbach, Kevin Kirby, Brian Willoughby, Kristine Mladucky, Kathy Maule and JoAnne Barrix. We had our first meeting after worship with the Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Jim Duehring, on August 7<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Jim pointed out our responsibilities and impressed upon us the importance of our “calling.” He likened this to other milestones in our lives such as Baptism, Confirmation, Graduation and Marriage.

As we begin meeting as a group, we first need to pray for patience and to know that calling a Pastor to our congregation is not like hiring a new CEO. In calling a Pastor we need to consider our own calling, consider God's gifts, consider the congregation and community needs, consider ministry gifts and consider new opportunities and challenges. We need to have faith that God is preparing one special person to become our Pastor.

In moving through this process, we as a committee will be starting with preparing a Ministry Site Profile. We will basically be putting together the hopes, dreams and goals that we see God putting before us. We will discern the most critical tasks in our leadership position, the most essential gifts for ministry and our expectations of a Pastor. And as you can imagine, this is not a “simple” task.

This Call Committee will need the prayers, support and input from our entire congregation. We will also need your patience. As much as we would like to have a new Pastor in our midst immediately, God is in charge and God works in God's time. While we are moving forward with the process, know that we will keep the Church Council and the congregation informed along each step.

Please do check in with any of us with your comments and questions. This is so important in the life of our community.

**...This is Stewardship!**

By JoAnne Barrix