

Seattle First Free Methodist Interim Pastor Expectations

The purpose and overarching goal of the Interim Pastor is to prepare the congregation for the next Lead Pastor. We do not expect the Interim Pastor to be a vision-caster and change agent, rather we expect him or her to work with the staff and congregation so that there is a readiness and even eagerness to embrace and work with our new Lead Pastor.

Be a stabilizing force

1. Provide leadership for the congregation and staff including providing a reassuring sense to others that someone is responsible for the health and welfare of the congregation.
2. Work with staff to assure successful continuation of current programs.
3. Coordinate with staff to develop Sunday worship service.
4. Be the face of the church for correspondence / communication or other outreach that Mark would usually do.
 - i. Be available for child dedication / baptism; weddings & funerals.

Promote ministry for healing of hurts and building of unity

1. Model the love of Christ.
2. Cue into congregational dynamics to provide a calming presence in listening to and addressing concerns.
3. Provide relationships to help congregants process their loss and sadness with the absence of the Abbott family.
4. Encourage and facilitate corporate and individual prayer.

Encourage

1. Preach or arrange for guest preachers.
 - i. Prepare congregants for acceptance that the church will be different – even as we do not know exactly how.
2. Find ways to empower and encourage lay leadership.

Generate excitement

1. Be a positive and uplifting force
2. When Lead Pastor is hired, work with incoming pastor to prepare congregation for new lead pastor and to exit gracefully.
3. Prepare the congregation to welcome the new Lead Pastor.

The interim pastor will not be a candidate for the position of Lead Pastor.