

CALL PROCEDURE BASICS

Congregations are encouraged to approach the call process confidently and deliberately, while taking adequate time for prayer, study, introspection and planning.

CONSTITUTION: Check your constitution as to whom is to be included as a member of the Call Committee.

SELF-STUDY: Congregations are to take some time to do a self-study. One suggested form is available on the District's web site. Distribute copies to members of your congregation to invite their input. The results of the study can assist the congregation in the call process, and assist the District President in the preparation of a Call List.

CIRCUIT VISITOR: The District President relies very much on Circuit Visitors to be of assistance to congregations during this process. Please contact your Circuit Visitor when initiating the process and notify him of Call Committee meeting dates.

NOMINATIONS: Following the guidelines of your constitution the Call Committee may begin to solicit nominees for the office of pastor. A nomination form is available on the District's web site. The names that the congregation wishes to consider are to be submitted to the office of the District President. He will, where appropriate, add and/or delete candidates. A packet with information on each name will be sent to your Call Committee. Please make ample copies available to the members of your Call Committee. The District President's office will execute your list, to the best of their ability, as quickly as possible.

SEMINARY GRADUATE: In addition to calling from the field, there is another option – submit an application (Call Document) for a graduate/candidate. The usual deadline to the District President's office for the Call Documents is March 15th for Spring Placement, which has the largest number of graduates. There often are several available at the Fall and Winter Placements. You may want to discuss this with President Schultz. He is chair of the Council of Presidents Placement Committee and may know of a candidate(s) that might be suitable for your congregation.

Please don't hesitate to contact President Schultz at president@southernlcms.org or call his direct office line at 985-796-7577 or his cell phone at 504-289-6481. Also, feel free to contact his assistant, Daisy Olmstead, at d.olmstead@southernlcms.org or call her direct office line at 985-635-4382. Their office looks forward to working with you.