



Special Meeting of the Congregation to Call Pastor Karna Moskalik

July 21st 2019

Meeting brought to order by OSLC Board President Meredith Caskey at 10:36 AM under the authority of Article 7 of the OSLC Constitution governing the calling of a Pastor.

Opening prayer by President Caskey

Board Vice President and convener of the Call Committee Greg Otsuka introduced and thanked the call committee (Aaron Harrell, Kattie Clark, Elaine Clark, Kyle Johnson, Dan Stoffer, Abbey Scheel, Larry Pucket, Maxine Enfield) for their hard teamwork and commitment to the cause. Greg shared a bit about the process followed.

- Bishop Patricia Lull personally vetted candidates and the committee review four candidates.
- All four were very strong
- Rigorous interviews were completed and visits to see them preach.

Call Committee member Aaron Harrell shared his experience about how well the work of the Transition Team flowed into the work of the call committee and ultimately toward Pastor Karna as the best candidate.

Dan Stoffer presented his Top 10 list about why he liked Pastor Karna:

10. She's highly engaged with the person or people who are in the room and who she is speaking to
9. She doesn't use notes. When we went to see her in Rochester didn't stand behind the comfort of the pulpit but rather stood in front of the congregation and spoke from the heart and gave a powerful message
8. Her husband has transferable skills. He is in the I.S. part of business. Everyone these days needs people like that. He should be able to find a job easily within the Twin Cities Area.
7. She was established in Rochester. She was at the same church for 12 years. Learning the craft as a Associate Pastor. I also like that she lives in Rochester. It's not like she will be commuting back and forth from Rochester. This allows us a high statistical chance of getting a Pastor who preaches in our church to live in our city too.

6. She has outside hobbies and interests. She has something to do other than work. She loves singing, playing the guitar, running and biking long distances.
5. She Smiles when she speaks and listens. It's a little thing that makes a big difference. She's a pleasant person.
4. She's brave. When we interviewed her, she didn't passively wait for us to ask questions. She took the risk to present to us the gifts she thinks she has that will be valuable to the church.
3. She's creative. She came to our 2nd interview with a song. The song was written by herself and the lyrics came from our Mission and Vision Statements. It was our song...a song about our church. She also had many ideas that no other candidate had thought of yet to grow our church.
2. She has a caring spirit. When you talk to her, you will see what I mean. She has a caring sole.

And the number one thing I like about Pastor Karna is she's approachable and not overly formal.

Motion by Greg Otsuka to Call Pastor Karna as the Settled Senior Pastor of Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Second by Summer Siedenkranz. Discussion followed:

Secretary Ray Valley spoke about a recent board meeting with the call committee and asking tough questions about whether the call committee thought Pastor Karna was "up to the job" managing Our Savior's. The call committee didn't hesitate to endorse her fitness as a strong leader. .

Discussion ensued about Pastor Karna's possible intentions to use OSLC and pursuit of her doctorate as a "stepping stone" toward some higher aspirations somewhere else. Concern about stability. VP Otsuka shared that Pastor Karna's pursuit of a doctorate is designed to help her become better pastor, rather than an indication of higher career aspirations. Other opinions shared are that we can never guarantee where or how or when our pastors are being called and we need to be realistic and cope with it. Some members shared that their initial discussions with Pastor Karna helped them feel like she is fully committed to Our Savior's long-term.

A member asked about how much Pastor Karna disclosed about her vision. Call Committee members shared how she has already taken our Mission, Vision, Values to the next step and crafted it into "Napkin Statement" and that she has initial ideas about how we can live out our Mission. She has shared that she is not coming in with a change agenda and is eager to learn about the identity of OSLC and what makes us unique.

Question was asked about her Financial/Administration experience. Response by VP Otsuka was that Pastor Karna has led a team of staff at Gloria Dei with budget authority but not experience as a "CEO" per se. However, she is very organized and detail oriented. She gets stuff done.

A member asked if there were any promises made about future arrangements that might affect her decision to accept the call. None outside of a Sabbatical policy that the board will be working on in the future.

Member Don Schuld expressed full trust in the Call Committee and Board in their judgment to bring Pastor Karna before the congregation. He requested to call the question for the motion on the floor.

Members voted and ballots counted.

80 votes Yay

0 Nay

0 Abstained

Pastor Karna officially called as Senior Pastor to Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Ray Valley
Our Savior's Lutheran Church Secretary
Board of Administration