

Pulpit Committee Interim Report 12.29.2020

Dear Christ the King Family,

The Pulpit Committee (members George Shannon, Chair; Jana Fay Bacarisse; Jason Bennett; Chris Dewhurst; Anne Goss; Steven Hogan; and Julie L. Perry) has been diligently and prayerfully pursuing the following congregational mandate: "...to evaluate the Reverend John Trapp as a candidate to assume the position of Senior Pastor of Christ the King, in accord with the Session's recommended leadership transition process, and to respond to the congregation in January 2021." In this regard we have done the following:

1. We initially met in person to study and pray about the mandate, and to create a process that would meet the mandate's requirements. We have met a number of times after our initial meeting by Zoom to continue our prayers, confirm what has been accomplished, and agree upon next steps.
2. To date we have accomplished the following:
 - a. We have individually listened to numerous of John's sermons from The University of Texas RUF, All Saints Church in Austin, and Christ the King Houston. We encourage the congregation to do this as well.
 - i. The sermons can be accessed by: (i) the Podcast of Texas RUF, (ii) the following link for sermons at All Saints Church--<https://subsplash.com/aspcsermons/search?q=trapp>, and (iii) the following link for a sermon at Christ the King--<https://www.christtheking.com/sermons/the-way-of-love/>. If you are unable to access the sermons by activating the links via this document, you may want to cut and paste the link directly into Google Chrome or your internet browser, or try your smart phone—the latter has worked well for me.
 - b. We developed in-depth questions and topics to address with references provided by John Trapp, and with other individuals we believed could provide meaningful insight, including pastors and staff members of Christ the King. We have conducted approximately 24 such interviews, each one being attended by two members of the Committee and subsequently reported to the whole Committee for review.
 - c. Based on a review of the interviews and sermons, and other pertinent resources such as the Book of Church Order, we formulated probing and extensive questions and topics to address with John and his wife, Chrissy. These included questions and topics we received from members of Christ the King.
 - d. Committee members who could do so attended the *Evening with the Trapps* via Zoom with John and Chrissy on December 13, 2020.
 - e. During that same week we had an extensive interview via Zoom with John over two sessions, and then a joint interview with John and Chrissy. By our assessment both of them were very straightforward and transparent in their responses and dialogue with us.
 - f. We have attempted to respond to questions and issues raised by Christ the King members that pertain to our mandate.
 - g. We have planned an additional in-person interview with John in early January 2021.
 - h. We have also planned a day of fasting and prayer in early January prior to determining our recommendation to the congregation.

At this time, we believe that the Committee should be in a position to respond to the mandate in a presentation to the congregation of Christ the King by mid to late January 2021. The Committee covets your prayers for the presence of the Holy Spirit in all of our activities. If anyone has questions or comments, please contact me at gshannon@smfadlaw.com or by text or a call to 713-299-2215. Please also feel free to contact any of the other Committee members--their contact information may be found on the Christ the King website via a link to the right of the logo titled "Directory".

The members of the Committee thank you for the privilege of serving you in this most important endeavor, and covet your prayers for our ongoing efforts.

Best, and in Him,
George