



Search Committee Report to Vestry August 16, 2022

It is my joy to bring this report to the vestry tonight. It has been a long and somewhat exhausting process, but the Lord has been faithful as He has guided this committee. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the Lord and Truro in this capacity. Our guiding principle all along has been to walk in the Lord's light as we sought the person that He desired to lead Truro Church.

Just a little background first. The members of the Rector Search Committee were approved by the vestry on October 11, 2021. The committee started meeting on October 28, 2021, and this is our 40th meeting as a body over the course of the last ten months.

After advertising the job on the ACNA and DOMA websites, the committee received inquiries from seven people who did not apply; fourteen people were nominated by parishioners: eight were sent invitations to apply but declined, five we did not pursue and one applied. We received applications from a total of eight candidates.

After an extensive process, the Rector Search Committee unanimously recommends to the Vestry the Rev. Jamie Brown for the position of Rector of Truro Church. This decision has come through many months of following the Lord's lead and discerning who He wanted the search committee to recommend being the next rector. As the committee wrote in the introduction to the Parish Profile, "We already have Jesus as our Good Shepherd. We desire our next rector to know and love Jesus deeply and be willing to protect, guide and care for the sheep of His pasture known as Truro Anglican Church." We have discerned that Jamie will be that kind of rector.

Many may wonder why we did not come to this conclusion months ago, but the Lord showed us that we needed to follow His leading as we worked through this process.

Some of us had concerns that Jamie did not have enough experience to be a rector, was too young and whether he had enough experience to attract those outside of the church since he has spent his whole life inside it. But, as we reflect back, it also became clear to the committee that the Lord has been using this time to grow Jamie in his leadership, and to give the congregation time to heal.

The committee needed to thoroughly vet Jamie; that he did indeed meet the criteria that we had set up. Through his written answers to questions, some of which were based on his spiritual autobiography, and two in-person interviews, the committee came to see Jamie's spiritual depth and knowledge of the Scriptures, his humble
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approach to those who were critical of him, his willingness to admit his need for guidance and his dedication to preach Jesus as the way to bring healing and growth to Truro.

Jamie has a holistic vision for Truro and bases his life and ministry on the promise and premise that in Christ all things hold together. Jamie truly knows and loves this church and the people here. He feels called to minister at Truro. He has institutional memory, unquestionable commitment, and a beloved history here. His call to Truro and love for the people of Truro has only deepened in the trauma of the last few years.

Jamie has the heart of a shepherd and understands that the primary role of a rector, “through pastoral care, preaching and leadership, is to feed their fellow sheep, love them and help them follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd.” Jamie understands the pain and trauma that Truro has endured. That perspective will inform his ministry to the congregation going forward to “grow Truro in health, in love, and then in numbers.”

Jamie Brown meets and exceeds the ministry selection criteria developed by the rector search committee in concert with the vestry and parish.

In conclusion, the Rector Search Committee has discerned that Jamie is the person that God desires us to recommend to you as rector for this time in the life of Truro Anglican Church.

I thank each of the committee members who worked so hard throughout these ten months. I also thank our Intercessors who selflessly held this committee, the new rector, the staff, the vestry, and congregation up in prayer.

Submitted by Mary Springmann, Rector Search Committee Chair

