

**Interview Questions: Interim Search Process
St. John's Episcopal Church, Jackson Hole, Wyoming**

Standard Questions

Stewardship: In addition to your response to the question in the ministry profile, we would like to understand your comfort level and approach to stewardship conversations with our more affluent parishioners, most of whom are successful businessmen and women.

As it relates to your call to interim ministry, we want to know what support you will need from us as a vestry and St. John's as a congregation.

What does discernment mean to you?

Individual Questions

Candidate #1 – What is leading you to interim ministry; and to St. John's in particular?

Candidate #2 – We would like to better understand your sentiment on pastoral care, and what you regard as your role in responding to the pastoral needs of the congregation and the role you see for our laity.

Candidate #3 – In your answer to the portfolio question regarding conflict, you mentioned “when conflict becomes personal.” Would you expand on the reasons for the conflict and your approach to working through it?

Candidates #1 and #3 – With the recent court decision regarding same gender marriage, our bishop issued a letter outlining his position, stating in essence that the Diocese of Wyoming will treat same gender marriages as it does marriage between a man and a woman. He goes on to say that the decision will be up to each individual member of the clergy. What are thoughts or position on this?

Scenarios

You have an assistant rector fresh out of seminary who has served as youth minister for the past 5 years. One of your tasks is to develop him. How do you do this?

As you conclude the 8 o'clock service, Operation Save America begins to set up picketing before the 10 o'clock service for performing same-gender weddings. How do you manage this?

People are becoming upset that the search committee is not sharing details of their work and discernment. This is generating feelings of distrust and anxiety and rumors are growing. How do you respond?

The vestry has become divided over funding the service (outreach) committee programs. This division is spilling into the congregation. How do you respond?

A member who is a large donor recently quit attending because of same-gender weddings by The Episcopal Church. How do you respond?