



SHEPHERD SELECTION

2025

A few questions for our series on Vision and Shepherd Selection:

Use our mission statement as a framework for discussion this month:

"A family growing to be like Jesus."

A FAMILY

- *When you think of church as a family, what images, experiences, or feelings come to mind?*
- *What makes finding belonging hard in our church/community/culture/world?*
- *What practical things can you do to be a hospitable presence for our church?*
- *When in your life have you felt the most connected to those around you?*

GROWING

- *What spiritual practices are helping you stay grounded in this season of life?*
- *What do you think Jesus/Holy Spirit is stirring in your life right now? In what ways are you being challenged?*
- *What is piquing your curiosity currently? What questions do you have about faith? (This isn't the space to answer questions, just to acknowledge that we have them.)*
- *What do you think growth looks like for us as a church family — and how is it different from simply "getting bigger"?*

TO BE LIKE JESUS

- *What traits/qualities of Jesus are most needed in the leadership of our church? City? World?*
- *What spiritual practices are helping you stay grounded in this season of life?*
- *What still surprises you about Jesus?*

Questions around Shepherding:

- *When was a time that someone showed up well for you in a pastoral way? What felt loving about that experience?*
- *When you think about the qualities most needed in pastoral leadership, what jumps out to you? How has your understanding of leadership in the church changed over time?*
- *What is one biblical image or story that shapes the way you approach shepherding?*
- *How do you balance caring for people's needs with knowing your own limits?*
- *What have you learned about being present with people in crisis, loss, or doubt?*

Other thoughts:

What gives you hope about the church right now?

Spend some time sharing names of people who you are considering recommending for the Shepherd role at OC. Why have you chosen the names you have chosen? Share stories and insights. This is about communal discernment.