As we begin a new season of pastoral transition at Our Father's we are filled with hope and eagerness. As council leadership we want to help everyone understand what to expect during this time of transition. You will notice in the weeks ahead our community lean on our strength of fostering spirit lead leaders. Our lay leaders will continue to lead worship, guide work and service groups, support pastoral care and glorify Christ though the work of our community. You may see new and returning faces sharing their stories from behind the pulpit on Sundays as well as notice pastoral care being provided by Pastors from Rockford and surrounding communities. Norie Siers has agreed to be a pastoral care point person through August, helping our congregation and community members connect to pastoral care in times of need, outside of weekly worship.

With the hope of installing an interim pastor in late August, early September council will continue to work closely with the Minneapolis Area Synod office and assistant to the Bishop, Rev. Craig Pederson, as they recommend candidates. That process is one that includes lots of time in prayer, getting to know the candidates and sharing with them the values and goals of our congregation. We will continue to share this process with you. Like our congregation, interim pastors are unique. The majority of interim pastors have training and experience serving congregations in transition. Interim pastors are familiar with issues, challenges, and ministry needs of congregations in a time of change. An interim pastor will help us prepare for calling new pastoral leadership to our congregation. Our time with interim pastoral care is an important one, it is not simply a filler between pastoral relationships, but is an intentional time and opportunity to pause and reflect, to learn and grow.

We love hearing your questions, concerns and ideas for the work that Christ is doing in our community during this time of transition. You will continue to see council leadership during and after worship, during fellowship, sharing in service teams, and working on projects. If you do not currently receive (or maybe read!) [Gather & Serve](http://www.ourfatherschurch.org/gather--serve-weekly.html) we highly encourage you to update your email address with the church office as that is secondary mode of communication to the congregation outside of worship and meetings. Council is planning another Council Update meeting, on Sunday August 5th after worship. Our last few meetings have been well attended and we love sharing the work of our congregation with everyone over coffee and breakfast! Please consider joining us Sunday morning to hear the latest in this time of transition.

OFLC Leadership Team

Anthony Wold, Sarah Jones, Rachel Baccam, Erik Dahl, Julie Vergin, Paul Bolstad, Rick Fuglie, Amy Blake-Field