

Appendix 7

Letter: Continued Consideration as Candidate

(Secretary: This is a notice this prospect will potentially move into consideration as a candidate. Use church letterhead for this letter. However, it is suggested that you hand write on a plain envelope using the Search Committee chairperson's name in the return address instead of the church name. Writing "personal" on the envelope may also help with confidentiality.)

Dear Rev. _____

The Pastor Search Committee of _____ Baptist Church has been working diligently at our task of discovering God's man for our congregation.

The Search Committee has been evaluating, discerning, and praying about the needs of our congregation and their expectations in a new pastor. We realize that all expectations are legitimate in the eyes of our people, but not always immediately a clear direction from our Lord.

It continues to prove a challenging and difficult task. Ultimately, we will secure only one man to serve as our pastor. This has required a great deal of prayer and action on our part.

We gathered input from our people, put together a profile of needs based upon this input, and have tried as best we could to anticipate in faith the best composite to expect with God's next man for our church.

This profile causes us to significantly narrow the pastoral prospects. At this time, though very preliminary to our search, we feel you remain as a viable prospective candidate to our search. As a courtesy to you and with full intention of affirming your ministry where God has you at this time, we ask you to further assist our search by completing the enclosed evaluation. If you would rather us not give further consideration of you as a pastoral prospect, please drop us a note to remove your name from our search. Otherwise, as God directs, please return this information to us within fifteen days.

We will understand by your positive response to our request that we may continue by contacting your references to gain further appreciation of your ministry.

Respectfully,

Chairman, Pastor Search Committee