

The table below contains the names of three people who have agreed to serve as references. They are not members of our church, but know it well enough to be helpful to final candidates seeking more information about it.

NAME	RELATIONSHIP TO CHURCH
Reverend Doctor Riley Shirley	Present Interim Pastor
Jack Mather	Scout leader and active in Halifax community
Warren Anderson	Past Church Member

The following groups and individuals in our church have contributed to, reviewed, and/or approved this profile for circulation.

The members of the Pastoral Search Committee, Barbara Anti, William Perkins, our advisor Rev. Dale Hempten, and our interim Pastor, Rev. Dr. Riley Shirley.

Statement on Leadership in Ministry

The Halifax Congregational Church supports a very small salaried staff; specifically, a part-time clerical assistant, sexton, and the organist/choir director, in addition to the minister. A great deal of responsibility, therefore, is placed upon the members and lay leadership for management, direction, and follow through, new ideas and procedures, problem solving, community outreach, and day to day, week to week, attention to the needs of the church and church family. Unfortunately, over the past year or two, in addition to the departure of our minister, we have sustained the loss, through illness, death, and re-location, of several long-time, stalwart members and leaders of our congregation. Some members have begun to step forward to help fill this gap, and we will be looking to our new minister to help encourage and sustain this effort.

We look to our minister and our lay leaders to work together to support and sustain the spiritual needs of the church family. Beyond the church building and Sunday services, our membership, through various boards and committees, appreciates the opportunities to share and express ideas, brainstorm solutions, and form cooperative partnerships to reach solutions and goals. We see the ideal minister as one who will encourage and facilitate these efforts; one who is a good listener and willing to form a cooperative partnership with the church leaders for the spiritual growth and betterment of the church.

We are a church steeped in tradition, but increasingly open to new ideas and ways of doing things. We would like a leader who would encourage "reasonable risk-taking" in terms of introducing and integrating "new" while respecting and understanding the need for "old". We are not generally on the cutting edge, but we are open to thoughts and discussions with a view toward inclusion, progress, and forward movement.