Potential First Meeting Agenda Items

- Transition Team Purpose: to strengthen the pastoral transition by providing insight, advice, and support to the pastor through the first year of ministry in a new congregation.
  - The Transition Team will meet at least monthly for six to nine months and will serve as a focus group for the pastor to review plans, share ideas, and test changes before they are implemented.
- Watch Video:
  - [https://vimeo.com/132939820](https://vimeo.com/132939820) (almost 17 minutes long)
- Identify First Meeting with Incoming Pastor
- Determine if there are some acts of hospitality that could be shown (may be done in conjunction with the SPRC)
  - Potentially host a welcome reception after worship on your pastor’s first Sunday
- Discuss Home Gatherings:
  - What are some dates that would be optimal for scheduling Home Gatherings?
    - Consider starting as quickly as possible so that your new pastor can begin to get to know your community soon.
    - Recognize the activity level in your church during the summer. The Home Gatherings may need to extend into August if attendance is lower in the summer.
  - How can you invite a broad number of people to attend the various gatherings?
    - Consider having signup sheets at church or online ([http://www.signupgenius.com/](http://www.signupgenius.com/)) is a great way to manage this information) over the span of a number of weeks.
    - Ask a “co-host” for the Home Gathering (a second person who can work with the host of the event) to make calls to invite church members or even regular visitors to attend.
  - Home Gatherings can be an invitation for people to “return” to church after less than regular attendance in a hospitable way. Additionally, the gatherings themselves can build community in a new way among church members. Enjoy them!

For questions, please contact Rev. Ashlee Alley Crawford, Clergy Recruitment and Development Coordinator at aalleycrawford@greatplainsumc.org or 785-414-4216.