

*A brief bio of...*

## **Reverend Aaron Scott White**

- Born and raised in the Metroplex
- Bachelor of Arts, Austin College, 2004
- Studied Abroad in Scotland and England
- Master of Divinity, Harvard Divinity School, 2007
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Billings Preaching Prize, Harvard Divinity School
- Harvard Divinity School Scholarship, 2004-2007
- Student Commencement Speaker, Austin College, 2004
- Winner of the Cook and Macfarlan Testimonial Prize in Divinity
- Lilly Fellowship in Theology, Austin College
- Lilly Grant for the Theological Exploration of Vocation
- Austin College Theatre Scholarship, 2000
- Austin College Posey Leadership Institute Scholarship, 2000-2004
- Currently serving as Consulting Minister, San Marcus UU Fellowship
- Currently serving as Young Adult Minister for Southwest UU Conference
- Previously served as Sabbatical Minister for Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Church, Cedar Park, Texas
- Previously served as Summer Minister for First Unitarian Universalist Church, Austin, Texas

Q: Has the committee really been working on this for a whole year?

A: Yes! We started last May when we were selected and charged by the Board of Trustees to find a new Second Minister.

Q: Why has this process taken so long?

A: The settlement process for a called minister is laid out in detail by the Unitarian Universalist Association. We followed their guideline and stuck to the UUA calendar, which has churches from around the country in search concurrently.

Q: How many people applied for the position?

A: We started with 15 applicants. From that list we chose 9 to interview by phone and ended up with 3 pre-candidates. We spent long weekends with each of the pre-candidates, getting to know them and hearing them preach.

Q: Why isn't the whole congregation allowed to vote on the three pre-candidates instead of just by the search committee?

A: Most of the applicants we considered continued to serve in long-standing positions. As in any job search, we have to protect the confidentiality of that search so as to not create discord with their present congregations.

Q: It seems like there is a certain amount of secrecy around the process of selecting our new minister. Why is that?

A: Please see the answer above. At the beginning of the process, the search committee sought input from anyone in the congregation with questions or suggestions. Once we started the actual interview and selection process, we were bound by our assurance of confidentiality from sharing any details at all about the applicants.

Q: Were both men and women considered for the position as Second Minister?

A: Yes! Many of the applicants who made our short list were women. That list also included applicants across a wide range of age, race and sexual orientation.

Q: Were Daniel and Laurel involved in the selection process?

A: We interviewed Daniel at the beginning of the process when we were soliciting input. He was encouraged to look over our first round selection of candidates and to let us know if there was anyone that he felt would not be a good fit with our church. Once we had settled on our pre-candidates, Daniel was no longer involved in the selection process. He did interview each of the pre-candidates and, as Senior Minister, handled the compensation negotiations. We also interviewed Laurel early on. After that interview she had no part in the process.

Q: Was the vote unanimous in the search committee?

A: Our rules required 8 favorable votes out of 9. As it turned out, the vote was unanimous for our selection!!

Save the Dates!!!

Candidate Week

April 26, 2009 – May 3, 2009

Sunday, Preaching 9:15 and 11:30 Sermons  
6-8 PM, Wine and Cheese

Monday, 10-Noon, Coffee and Danish

Tuesday, Noon - 2, Brown Bag Lunch

Wednesday, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, Forum

Thursday, Lunch with Staff

Saturday, 5:30–7:30, Family Dinner

Sunday, Preaching 9:15 and 11:30 Sermons  
Congregational Vote!!!

Come Get to Know Our Candidate

More details will be forthcoming...



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