

RESOURCE 4

VESTRY CHARGE TO SELF-STUDY  
AND DISCERNMENT COMMITTEES

\_\_\_\_\_ Church  
VESTRY RESOLUTION  
[Date]

We, the vestry of \_\_\_\_\_ Church, charge the Discernment Committee to recommend to us a priest who best demonstrates the pastoral and ministerial skills needed by this congregation as reflected in our profile, without regard to race, national origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, age, or current location.

This charge incorporates the following:

The Discernment Process will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines established by the Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_.

The Self-Study and/or Discernment Committee chairperson will report monthly in writing or in person to the vestry on the progress of the Discernment Process. Additionally, the chairperson will report to the congregation on a periodic basis.

A total budget of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is established to cover travel, printing, postage, telephoning, and other expenses, with \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the Self-Study Committee and \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the Discernment Committee.

The Self-Study Committee will produce a parish profile in \_\_\_\_\_ format (printed, website, or CD).

The Discernment Committee will recommend to the vestry \_\_\_\_\_ candidate(s) from whom the vestry will discern which candidate to call as rector or vicar.

Use of the telephone and current computer technology to screen long distance candidates is encouraged. The following geographic limitations are set:\_\_\_\_\_.

The Discernment Committee should make its recommendation to the vestry as close to the date \_\_\_\_\_ as possible.