**Letter Narrowing to One Candidate**

[To the top 2-4 who are no longer being considered. This letter should be sent after a personal phone call is made from the chairman of the committee. Email is appropriate.]

Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

The Pastor Search Committee of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (church name) has decided on one candidate to pursue uniquely. While we have deeply appreciated your cooperation and your prayerful consideration, and while we believe strongly that the Lord has gifted you in pastoral leadership, we believe that He is leading us toward another candidate to pursue uniquely at this time. As of now, we will no longer pursue you further as a candidate.

At the same time, we acknowledge that this process is not perfect, and neither are we. Should we have misunderstood God’s direction, or should we come to realize that the candidate we are now pursuing uniquely is not God’s man for this season in our church, we may come back to you and ask that you consider a conversation with us again. If so, we would ask at that time, in great humility, that you be open to being reconsidered.

Thank you, again, for your willingness to search out the Lord’s direction in this call. Thank you for your interest in the pastorate at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (church name). We are praying the Lord will direct your steps clearly and compellingly in the future.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Pastor Search Committee Chairman