

Leadership as Discipleship

The Mission of University Park United Methodist Church:

Embodying the love of Jesus for the good of our communities.

Leadership at UPUMC is about more than just responsibilities. It is about disciples who are growing in grace and serving together for the sake of God's mission. Every leadership team helps our church live into our vision by embodying the love of Jesus for the good of our communities. Each leader represents the values of UPUMC both inside *and* outside the walls of the church. Requirements for serving in leadership in the following capacities require being a member in good standing, having a recorded gift to the ministry of the church in any amount in the last year, and being an active presence in the community of UPUMC.

We believe leadership is one of the ways we practice discipleship. As we serve together, God continues to grow us in grace, shaping us into the likeness of Christ through the shared work of ministry. Leadership is not reserved for those who have "arrived." Rather, it is one of the ways God's grace continues to transform us.

No leader will embody these characteristics perfectly. Rather, these profiles describe the kind of people God is continually forming us to become as we grow together in grace.

Each profile below offers a picture of the kind of leader we seek to become, along with some of the ways God often grows those who serve in that role.

Pastor-Parish Relations Committee (PPRC) – The Bridge Builder

(Cultivates trust and healthy relationships)

PPRC members help cultivate healthy relationships between the congregation, clergy, and staff. They foster trust, encourage honest conversation, and care for the well-being of those who lead and serve the church. By strengthening these relationships, they help create a healthy church that can more fully embody the love of Jesus for the good of our communities.

Who We Seek to Be

- Emotionally mature and deeply trustworthy.
- Practices wisdom and confidentiality.
- Courageous in navigating difficult conversations with grace and compassion.
- Able to hold pain and complexity without rushing to resolution

Growing in Grace

- Growing from assumptions to understanding.
- Growing from conflict avoidance to courageous love.

Committee Description

The Pastor-Parish Relations Committee serves as a trusted partner to the clergy, staff, and congregation by nurturing healthy relationships, encouraging open communication, and supporting the well-being and effectiveness of the church's leaders. The committee prayerfully discerns matters related to staffing, leadership, and congregational life so that the church's ministry can flourish.

By helping build trust and strengthen relationships, the PPRC supports the church's mission of embodying the love of Jesus for the good of our communities.

Meeting Time: Third Monday of each month, 6:00 p.m.