

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Purpose: The Spiritual Leadership Team tends to the overall spiritual health of the congregation and strengthens the bonds of our affection and accord. Members of SLT serve as an extension of the pastor's "pastoral" work within CMF. As CMF does not have assistant pastors, members of SLT help ensure that every member of the church is receiving the pastoral care they require to thrive spiritually and experience joy within the life of the congregation.

Composition:

- The group will be composed of three people (not including the pastor) with each gender represented.
- The team will be chaired by the senior member.

Frequency of Meeting, Term of Service:

- Meet once every 4–6 weeks
- Three-year staggered terms

Key Responsibilities:

Personal Spiritual and Leadership Development

- Support each other in own spiritual journeys.
- Occasionally attend appropriate workshops for ministry training. Topics might include grief counseling, conflict resolution, and others.

Pastoral Care of the Congregation

- Be aware of pastoral care needs within the congregation (especially hospitalizations, etc.) and discuss as appropriate.
- If certain concerns stretch beyond pastor's availability, either provide care or see that care is provided in some way.
- Be a first point of contact for congregational needs when pastor is out of town or on vacation.
- Maintain confidentiality with concerns entrusted to group.
- Pray together for the congregation, pastor and pastor's family. Report joys and concerns from sharing time in Tuesday Tidings.
- Oversee distribution of the Love Fund along with the Everence representative and the Pastor.
- Note visitors who have filled out cards and decide appropriate response.
- Work with Hospitality Coordinator(s) response (see Hospitality Coordinator).
- Organize care packages for college students.
- Help pastor connect with resources outside this group that can be helpful for particular issues.
- Be prepared to give feedback or input on other areas raised by pastor.
- Regularly initiate one-on-one meetings with members of the congregation. The purpose of these meetings can vary: to strengthen relationships, to listen to concerns, to offer comfort.

- Work with the pastor to reach out to members who seem to be withdrawing from full participation in the life of the congregation, especially if those members do not have a strong relationship with the pastor. Review attendance records as needed.

Care of the Pastor:

Provide personal support to the pastor. Be a sounding board to assist the pastor in assessing the vitality and well-being of the congregation. Help him/her connect with resources within and beyond the group.

SLT Birth or Adoption Response to a couple or individual CMF member experiencing a birth or adoption.

SLT role:

The Sunday following the birth or adoption (or when the family or individual is at church next), purchase a red or yellow rose to place on the front table in the sanctuary, inform the worship leader to announce the reason for the rose and inform the church secretary to put a notice in the church bulletin if one has not already been posted. After the service give the rose to the family or individual. Also be in communication with the Hospitality Coordinator(s).

SLT Grieving Response to an individual CMF member or family experiencing a death of a significant loved one.

Pastor's role:

- Initial contact with the individual / family related to immediate needs such as being present with them at the hospital, nursing home or home at the time of death.
- Contact with individual / family related to funeral planning.
- Contact to determine if any assistance is needed with meals, etc.
- Send Special Care Series booklets at 3 weeks, 3 months, 6 months, and 11 months after the funeral.
- Provide communication link between grieving individual / family and entire congregation.

SLT role:

- If indicated after discussion at SLT meeting, ask the individual if they would like to process their loss and grieving with an ad hoc group.
- Be prepared to suggest community support groups for grieving if needed or requested.
- At time of one year anniversary of the death, ask individual if they would like to share about the death of their loved one with the CMF community.
- The Sunday following the death (or when the individual is at church next), purchase a white rose to place on the front table in the sanctuary. A card or note may be attached to the rose to express sympathy. Inform the worship leader to announce the reason for the white rose and inform the church secretary to put a notice in the church bulletin that week. After the service give the rose to the family or individual. Also be in communication with the Hospitality Coordinator(s).