

THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA
OPERATING PRINCIPLES OF THE MINISTRY TEAMS

Preamble

The Operating Principles of the Ministry Teams of the First United Methodist Church of West Lafayette, Indiana (hereafter called FUMC) identifies the purpose and structure of Ministry Teams, the initial Administrative and Specialty Ministry Teams, and the process for modifying the Ministry Teams.

Article I: Ministry Teams

- 1) Purpose/Function
 - A) Ministry Teams allow members of the congregation to participate in the life of the church and respond to God's call by contributing their time and talents to moving FUMC forward in achieving its mission, vision, and principles.
 - B) Ministry Teams provide a working group to support a field of ministry.
 - C) Ministry Teams have a clearly defined purpose and related goals.
- 2) Types of Ministry Teams
 - A) Administrative Ministry Teams address administrative duties for the functioning of the church and for achieving the mission, vision, and principles of FUMC.
 - B) Specialty Ministry Teams address service around a specific type of ministry, special theme, or area of concern.
- 3) Ministry Teams must have an identified chairperson or co-chairpersons. The duties of the chairperson are:
 - A) Monitor progress towards the accomplishment of the Ministry Team's purpose and goals.
 - B) Provide requested reports on activities and expenses to the Governance Board.
 - C) Ensure any resources provided to the Ministry Team are used to accomplish the Ministry Teams purpose and goals.
 - D) Ensure any operating plan funding request related to education, worship, property, or church office be submitted to the Governance Board Chairperson in time for it to be considered as part of the annual operating plan presented at the October Church Conference.
- 4) Additional Ministry Teams or Sub-Ministry Teams can be created by a majority vote of the Governance Board.
 - A) New Ministry Teams need to identify the following:
 - i) The name of the proposed Ministry Team.
 - ii) The purpose and goals of the proposed Ministry Team.
 - iii) Chairperson(s) and members of the Ministry Team.
 - iv) Resources needed for the Ministry Team to advance their purpose and goals.
- 5) Ministry Teams or Sub-Ministry teams can be reorganized if such a reorganization would improve the effectiveness of church work by a majority vote of the Governance Board.

Article II: Administrative Ministry Teams

- 1) Administrative Ministry Teams report to the Governance Board and Pastoral Staff.
- 2) Administrative Ministry Teams have a minimum of four (4) members.
 - A) Administrative Ministry Teams may add members at any time.
 - B) If an Administrative Ministry Team has fewer than four members, the Nomination and Leadership Committee (see FUMC Operating Principles of the Governance Board) can appoint new members.
- 3) Initial Administrative Ministry Teams
 - A) Communications
 - i) Develops a branding and communications strategy.
 - ii) Disseminates information about the activities of the church.
 - iii) Maintains FUMC website.
 - B) Education and Family Ministry
 - i) Organizes opportunities to learn about and practice being a disciple of Jesus for adults, youth, and children.
 - ii) Offers educational opportunities like Sunday School classes, small group meetings, online educational offerings, camps, work projects, etc.
 - iii) Sub-Ministry Teams can be organized to focus on the special needs of various age groups.
 - C) Grounds and Maintenance
 - i) Provides care and regular upkeep for the First United Methodist Church building and property including mowing, playground upkeep, and basic maintenance.
 - D) Stewardship and Generosity
 - i) Communicates a vision of generosity and stewardship for FUMC.
 - ii) Conducts an annual stewardship campaign for support of the operating plan.
 - iii) Grow a spirit of conservation in the use of church and personal resources.
 - E) Worship
 - i) Organizes meaningful worship and connection through inspirational and creative moments of worship to the congregation.
 - ii) Provides opportunities for lay involvement in worship (e.g. reading of scripture, announcements, testimonials, technology integration).

Article III: Specialty Ministry Teams

- 1) Specialty Ministry Teams report to the Governance Board, Senior Pastor, or an appropriate Administrative Ministry Team.
- 2) Specialty Ministry Teams have a minimum of three (3) members.
 - A) Administrative Ministry Teams may add members at any time.
 - B) If an Administrative Ministry Team has fewer than three members, the Nomination and Leadership Committee (see FUMC Operating Principles of the Governance Board) can appoint new members.
- 3) Initial Specialty Ministry Teams

- A) Care and Nurture
 - i) Communicates messages of encouragement, joy, sympathy, and comfort to persons who had been placed on the prayer list.
 - ii) Remembers persons on the prayer list in daily prayers.
- B) Missions
 - i) Engages people inside the church with people outside the church in relationships through hands-on ministries.
 - ii) Crossing cultures to build community relationships.
- C) Pickup Van Ministry
 - i) Provides weekly transportation to Sunday worship service upon request.
 - ii) Provides transportation to special events upon request.
- D) Welcome and Connection
 - i) Ensures members and visitors receive a warm greeting when attending services.
 - ii) Provides information about relevant classes, small groups, and ministry teams.