

Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis
PASTORAL CARE COUNCIL CHARGE
Adopted by the Board of Trustees on August 12, 2013

Purpose

The Pastoral Care Council, in collaboration with the Senior Minister, shall oversee the pastoral care of the congregation by providing a network of care.

Goals

- To foster a safe, caring environment within the Church and within the neighborhoods where congregants reside.
- To provide support and short-term assistance to the extent of available resources.
- To maintain confidentiality as determined by the congregant seeking services and the Senior Minister.
- To assist congregants in locating resources or assistance beyond the scope of the Pastoral Care Council.
- To provide support to the overall care network, including captains and volunteers.

Responsibilities

The Council shall provide administrative and educational support for pastoral care, including: assessment of needs, coordination of pastoral services, communication to the congregation and to volunteer networks, and evaluation of services delivery.

The Council is made up of three groups:

- The *Neighborhood Network*, which provides short-term assistance and organizes neighborhood gatherings.
- The *One-to-One Network*, which provides a listening presence for congregants.
- The *Celebration of Life Team*, which assists families in planning and creating a comfortable setting that facilitates coming together to remember and celebrate the lives of their loved ones.

Special Qualities or Skills Needed by Members

Individuals should have, or be open to learning, the following skills: organization, empathy, problem-solving, diplomacy, good communication, ability to respond to issues of confidentiality, and active listening skills.

Number of Chairs, Coordinators, Captains & Volunteers Needed

Pastoral Care Council: 2 co-chairs.

Neighborhood Network: 2 co-coordinators, plus 10-20 neighborhood captains or co-captains to coordinate activities in each of 10 neighborhoods. The number and continuity of volunteers fluctuates by neighborhood.

One-to-One Network: 2 co-coordinators, plus up to 10 volunteers.

Celebration of Life Team: 2 co-chairs, plus 8-30 volunteers, depending on event size.

Terms of Office

Co-Chairs: 2 years. Coordinators: 2 years. Neighborhood captains: 2 years.

Leadership & Volunteer Selection Process

Council Co-Chairs and Coordinators for all three Council groups are recommended by incumbents, vetted by the Senior Minister, and approved by the Board. Volunteers for the Neighborhood Network and the Celebration of Life Team are recruited by the coordinators, by existing volunteers, or by calls for volunteers. One-to-One associates serve at the discretion of the Senior Minister.