

Church Name
PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE: Pastoral Relations committee

PURPOSE: The pastoral Relations Committee promotes and helps develop healthy relationships between pastor and congregation so the mission and the vision of the church can be fulfilled.

SPECIFIC TASKS and RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Supports and maintains an open relationship between pastor (and sometimes other staff) and members of the congregation.
- Serves as a support group for the pastor's leadership: interpreting roles, functions, boundaries, opportunities, and needs of the pastor to the congregation.
- Encourages the pastor toward self-care, continuing education and life-long learning, sabbaticals and professional development
- Supports the pastor's ministry beyond the local church in the community and denomination.
- Serves as an advisory group to the pastor - sharing ideas, dreams, expectations, and concerns of the congregation with the pastor;
- Provides a regular channel of communication between the pastor and the congregation enhancing the variety of informal and formal means of support and communication
- Listens to all voices, supporting and empowering both congregation and pastor, helps test perceptions, helps resolve conflicts through active listening and mutual feedback.
- Works proactively, crushing gossip, never repeating negative comments and hearsay
- Facilitates conflict resolution between pastor, congregation, staff
- Communicates the pastor's needs to the appropriate committees in the congregation

What PRC does not do

Annual performance review of the pastor but can provide feedback

Function as a Human Resources Committee but can provide feedback

Possible agenda:

- What is working – celebrations, accomplishments
- What is not working – challenges, issues
- How can we do better – how can we partner to resolve and move forward
- How can we support you – how can committee support pastor
- How can we help congregation – clear communication, dialogue, safe space, etc...