

Pastoral Care Team Member ***First Universalist Church of Minneapolis***

Purpose of Position

To support the mission of this church by providing a ministry of presence to members of our community in times of physical and emotional crisis, and during long-term transitions and struggles and to view this service as a form of spiritual practice and growth.

Responsibilities

1. Commit to a two-year term as a member of the team
2. Participate in the initial all training sessions
3. Attend monthly Pastoral Care Team meetings
4. Meet with the Pastoral Care Team Coordinator to discern whether to become a commissioned team member.
5. Provide confidential, non-judgmental listening presence to assigned community members on a regular basis. *4-12 hours per month*
6. Commit to personal spiritual growth as a Pastoral Care Team Member:
 - Lead prayer or meditation as requested
 - Participate in regular team reflection sessions (*once a month*), reviewing visits brought to the team by you or other group members
 - Participate in continuing education sessions provided
7. Report to any concerns regarding church member during a visit to the Minister of Program Life
8. Support and demonstrate the mission of our church in the carrying out of your responsibilities.

Qualifications

1. Respect for individuals, their dignity and value.
2. Ability to listen to the concerns of others without judging, fixing, advising or saving.
3. Ability to maintain appropriate boundaries in relationships
4. Ability to sit quietly with others when they express, fear, sorrow or pain
5. Ability to accept that others are complete and whole even when they are struggling
6. Ability to maintain strict confidentiality
7. Willingness and ability to seek support and comfort from others in times of need
8. Reliable in keeping appointments and in participating in Pastoral Care Team group sessions.
9. Sound judgment in making appropriate referrals in conjunction with coordinator and ministers.
10. Drivers license (check recent moving violations, no DWI, DUI) and background check

Qualities of a Pastoral Care Team Member First Universalist Church of Minneapolis

A Pastoral Care Team member aspires to be a person who:

- ✚ can listen to another, even when what they say doesn't appear to make sense
- ✚ allows others to express their own feelings, without telling them how they should feel
- ✚ is willing to sit quietly with others, when they cannot express their pain or fear
- ✚ others can confide in, knowing that confidentiality is respected
- ✚ can accept others as they are, rather than how they "ought to be"
- ✚ gives others time and opportunities to make their own decisions, without feeling a need to step in and decide for them
- ✚ keeps another at the center of a visit, bringing one's own life into the conversation judiciously
- ✚ respects the faith and beliefs of another, without wanting to change or argue.
- ✚ understands that living a full life means experiencing burdens and pain as well as joy and that all are as valuable to the individual
- ✚ supports the principles of the Unitarian Universalist faith and values the community as necessary for spiritual growth
- ✚ has the ability to draw on his or her own spiritual resources
- ✚ is willing to seek help and advice when a situation is difficult or overwhelming
- ✚ experiences this opportunity for service as a spiritual practice