

MDP Narrative Question 3:

How will this call help complement the responsibilities of other staff and volunteer positions, and the life of the congregation, so that we may accomplish our short and long-term goals for ministry?

PPC is blessed with many active members who contribute to the church and our community, including our organist, choir director, bell choir director, and a session comprised of nine individuals (including our interim pastor). *Most Session members sit* on one of 4 teams; specifically, Finance, Personnel, Worship & Music, and *Property*. *Four* other teams, Deacons, Mission, Church Fellowship and the Big House Committee report into the Session through our pastor.

PPC has a part-time administrative assistant and a streaming technician who handles the *technical mechanics for streaming* our Sunday services. We contract with *ARC, a local social services* organization for the disabled, which provides cleaning services for the building.

We are seeking a fulltime pastor, who ideally will be equipped with a strong commitment to collaboration, one who listens well with the strength to facilitate and guide discussion when there are opposing viewpoints. We are seeking a leader who will advise and assist the congregation in discerning PPC's future, while teaching and guiding the congregation in living Christ's word in today's world. Accordingly, we are actively seeking a pastor *who* informs and inspires the worshiping community to act in Christ's name in their everyday lives *through sermons and reflective religious studies*.

It should also be noted that PPC has an aging population that is declining in its numbers. Our next pastor will be tasked with helping the congregation to *discern* the future of Park Church. We are seeking an individual who can guide PPC's decisions on both short and long-term goals, while also identifying opportunities and challenges that may arise.

Between 1946 and 2004, PPC had two pastors. *Since 2004*, fissures in the congregation developed and contributed to extensive loss of membership. *In the last twenty years, PPC has struggled with identifying a pastor who could successfully identify issues within the congregation and lead the church forward.*

Through the guidance of our current interim pastor, PPC has had frank and fruitful discussions. The Pastor Nominating Committee believes that Park Church is healing, but memories live long and people may be quick to point to past issues as if they remain in today's church. It is the PNC's hope that our next pastor will be able to continue the healing within our church and help PPC to build a joyful community of committed believers and active members of Christ's church.