

DESIGNATED ASSOCIATE FOR SPIRITUAL CARE (Part-time)

Position Description

“Teaching elders ... may serve in a variety of ministries, as authorized by the presbytery ... When they serve as pastors, they shall support the people in the disciplines of the faith amid the struggles of daily life.” G-2.05

The Associate for Spiritual Care will respond to the need for ministry with members who are experiencing grief and loss:

- Offering personal contact and individual conversation;
- Facilitating support groups;
- Teaching;
- Leading worship services for healing and reconciliation, including the sacraments.
- Training deacons in bereavement ministry;
- Evaluating and recommending resources for use by members and ministers;
- Referring to mental health professionals, when necessary;
- Advising and consulting with other teaching elder colleagues.

The work of the Designated Associate for Spiritual Care will be directed by the head of staff and will be evaluated by the Human Resource Committee.

The Designated Associate for Spiritual Care position is initially non-compensated. It is part-time (averaging 15- 20 hrs. per week.) Vacation and continuing education are in accordance with presbytery guidelines. It is initially a voluntary opportunity for someone desiring to use their gifts and preparation for ordained ministry in spiritual/pastoral care. There will be honoraria for teaching and preaching assignments.

The session affirms this as a ministry of a teaching elder, given the centrality of the sacraments in pastoral care and legal protection afforded for confidentiality.

This ministry is in accord with the criteria for validated ministry as described in the Book of Order, G-2.0503. The position is a designated pastoral position.