

MARKS OF FAITHFUL AND EFFECTIVE AUTHORIZED MINISTERS IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHIBITING A SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION AND ONGOING SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Loving God, following Jesus Christ, and being guided by the Holy Spirit; living a life of discipleship.

The bible is God's divine love story to us. God's love is unconditional. God is love.

Always listening and being observant to the promptings and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Praying actively and nurturing spiritual practices.

Nightly devotionals, discussions and prayers.

Being called to ordained ministry by God and the Church.

I received my calling from God to minister in the Spring of 2021.

Continuing discernment of one's call in community.

Continual praying and seeking input from peers.

Understanding the power of the Holy Spirit at work through the elements of Christian worship to nurture faith.

The Holy Spirit convicts us of our sins and guides us to repentance. The Holy Spirit is our teacher and guides us to an understanding of scripture.

Exhibiting a commitment to lifelong spiritual development and faithful personal stewardship.

Continuing education through class at Christian Leaders Alliance, Christian Leaders Alliance, RightNow Media.

John 14:26

²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

NURTURING UCC IDENTITY

Acknowledging Jesus Christ as the sole Head of the Church.

Ephesians 1:22 And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all thing to the church.

Communicating passion for the oneness of the Body of Christ (John 17:21).

We should all be one with each other as Jesus and God were one.

Holding active membership in a Local Church of the United Church of Christ.

I became a member of FCW on November 5th, 2023.

Participating in the various settings of the United Church of Christ, including Local Churches, Associations, Conferences, General Synod, and global ministries.

Currently serving as a deacon and assisting with the liturgy.

Knowing and appreciating UCC history, polity, and theology.

I am currently reading the Short Course in the History of the United Church of Christ.

Exhibiting a commitment to the core values of the United Church of Christ: continuing testament, extravagant welcome, and changing lives.

John 13:34-35

³⁴ “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

BUILDING TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Empowering the Church to be faithful to God's call, reflective of Christ's mission, and open to the surprises of the Holy Spirit.

Strategically creating the future of God's Church.

Reach out to people of all walks of life in our community to ensure, as best we can, that everyone has the opportunity to receive our witness.

Create different events for the body of church to come together outside of church for fellowship, to create relationships, and become one.

Witnessing in the public square to God's redeeming power.

Performing necessary and appropriate administrative tasks.

I manage 2 technicians to keep production equipment running properly and the workspace safe for a medical device company. I schedule maintenance and repairs, or supplies parts and tools.

I design new automated manufacturing machines to improve efficiency and safety.

Working collaboratively with intercultural awareness and sensitivity.

I work with people from many different countries and cultures. Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Haiti, El Salvadore, Columbia,

Encouraging leadership development of self and others through continuing education and lifelong learning.

I encourage and support my direct reports in ways of self-improvement both professionally and personally.

ENGAGING SACRED STORIES AND TRADITIONS

Exhibiting knowledge, understanding, and continuing study of the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament.

Maturing in effective proclamation and preaching.

I need experience in this.

Understanding the history of the Christian Church, from biblical times forward.

Bringing life to sacred stories and traditions in worship, proclamation, and witness.

It is important to give context to sacred stories...

Leading faith formation effectively across generations.

Helping with online Bible studies which can bring the study of scriptures to those who are not able to get to church due to work, transportation, or health reasons.

Holding the Holy with integrity especially as represented in the Sacraments.

Maintaining focus on the reason for the sacraments....

CARING FOR ALL CREATION

Nurturing care and compassion for God's creation.

Always keeping in mind that God created all creatures and the world around us.

Maintaining a basic understanding of mental health and wellness.

Practicing self-care and life balance.

Providing hope and healing to a hurting world.

Attending to one's own spiritual and pastoral care, including engagement in supervision as appropriate.

Seeking mentorship.

Stewarding the resources of the Church.

I have not had any experience with this yet.

PARTICIPATING IN THEOLOGICAL PRAXIS

Practicing theological reflection and engagement as part of one's sense of ministerial identity.

Integrating theological reflection in teaching, preaching, and ecclesial and community leadership.

Articulating a theology and practice of ministry consistent with the UCC Manual on Ministry.

I have not had any experience with this yet.

Demonstrating an appreciation for and participation in the ecumenical and interfaith partnerships of the UCC.

I have not had any experience with this yet.

Experiencing and appreciating a variety of theological perspectives.

I spent many of my childhood years at a Lutheran church and several years in the Mormon church.

Embodying the UCC Ministerial Code.

I have read and I will abide by the UCC Ordained Minister's Code as much as possible for someone who is not ordained.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR JUSTICE AND MERCY

Drawing on the ministry of Jesus Christ to confront injustice and oppression.

Practicing the radical hospitality of God.

Identifying and working to overcome explicit and implicit bias in the life of the Church.

Understanding community context and navigating change with a community.

Engaging in mission and outreach.

I do not have any experience of this yet.

Building relationships of mutual trust and interdependence.

My coworkers know that they can come to me to vent their frustrations. They are aware of my calling to be a minister. They know that what they say to me will always remain confidential and that I do not gossip.

STRENGTHENING INTER- AND INTRA- PERSONAL ASSETS

Developing and maintaining a healthy sense of self as shaped by God, community, and life experiences.

Recognizing spiritual lessons to be learned from life's experience and how God is there with you.

Living in relationships of covenantal accountability with God and the Church.

Exhibiting strong moral character and personal integrity.

Respecting the dignity of all God's people.

Understanding and ministering to stages of human development across the lifespan.

Understanding that to minister to people of different ages, you need to meet them where they are in their education, maturity, spiritual background and understanding.

Demonstrating excellent communication skills.