

## **PASTORAL CARE TEAM (PCT) MEMBER**

### **Position Description and Application**

#### **Purpose of the Position:**

To assist ministers in providing pastoral in various situations and maintaining contact with those in our Fellowship community who need special attention.

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Listen compassionately to those who need a pastoral presence.
- Care for people without trying (or feeling a responsibility) to fix them and their problems!
- Check in with people (usually via phone or email) to see how they are doing and if they need support.
- Report back to ministers about connections made, stories told, and needs outstanding.
- Attend monthly reflection meetings and initial training.
- Be available to ministers via email and phone; read/listen and respond to messages within 36 hours (excepting vacations and other unusual, occasional circumstances).
- Refer pastoral care recipients to minister(s) and/or professional crisis assistance as necessary and appropriate.
- Attend Fellowship worship service(s) about every three weeks to serve as a chaplain afterward for those who wish to connect pastorally.

#### **Qualifications:**

PCT members will have good boundaries and an open, compassionate spirits. They will be able and willing to communicate, including reaching out to those they don't yet know. PCT members are expected to maintain strict confidentiality. They will be willing to ask for help or support. They will be reliable with excellent follow through skills!

#### **Amount of Time Required:**

PCT members typically devote about ten hours a month to this role. (This could take the form of leaving a long list of friendly voice mail messages; hearing about a current loss at the back of the sanctuary after a service; or meeting in-person with someone once every week or two.) They will attend monthly PCT meetings, which will be scheduled at a mutually convenient time. Initial and occasional training will be scheduled additionally.

#### **Length of Commitment:**

Two years, with the possibility of renewal, starting in the summer or fall 2018 (initial training TBD).

#### **Training and Support Provided by:**

The ministers, with Rev. Leah Hart-Landsberg in the lead. [During her July-December 2018 sabbatical, assistant sabbatical minister Rev. Jim Coakley will coordinate pastoral care.]

#### **Responsible to:**

Rev. Leah or Rev. Jim, with others made available in their absence.

**Title:**

Pastoral Care Team Member. Pastoral Care Team members are considered part of the Fellowship's Lay Ministry program (along with Worship Leaders and Spiritual Connection Saturday Facilitators); as such, they will be called Lay Ministers when they are included with these other categories.

*Updated April 2018*

## PASTORAL CARE TEAM MEMBER APPLICATION

Name:

Email address:

Phone number:

- 1) Why would you like to be a member of the Pastoral Care Team?
  
- 2) Do you have experience deeply listening? If so, please briefly describe:
  
- 3) What, if any, spiritual practices do you have?
  
- 4) What are your most significant core ethical, spiritual and/or religious beliefs?

**Return to Rev. Leah at [leah@fvuuf.org](mailto:leah@fvuuf.org) or the Fellowship office by May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018.**