

COM Liaison Description

Liaison Description

Role: to build bridges of support connecting congregations, pastors, the Presbytery and the PC(USA)

Person Description:

- being an attentive listener
- being calm in a crisis
- having a spiritual focus

- having a willingness to learn
- having an awareness of basic polity
- being reflective

Call to Service as a Liaison: Liaisons are identified for service through many channels. These include demonstration of leadership at the congregational and/or presbytery levels. Potential liaisons may suggest themselves or may be suggested. Invitations to serve as a liaison are extended by the Connecting our Ministry Committee. The term of service is for one year, with annual mutual discernment for God's call to continued service.

Training and Leadership Development: Biennial Meetings, 2-hour blocks, afternoon or evening

Description of Liaison Work

Building Relationships with the Congregation

- Attend worship once per year, more frequently if possible
- Attend special celebrations as able
- Read newsletter, website or other communications and alert the Liaison Coordinator of special events
- Obtain annual report, review, and provide to the Presbytery office

Building Relationship with the Pastor(s), Church Program Staff/Leadership Team and Commissioned Ruling Elders

- Primary relationship with the pastor(s)
 - One face to face meeting per year (may be more)
 - o Routine email/phone call/social media or other contact
 - Refer concerns/celebrations to Liaison Coordinator and/or Executive Presbyter
- Resourcing Relationship with other staff/leadership
 - o Inform educators/youth workers/musicians of support networks

- As time permits building connections with other church program staff such as educators/youth leaders/musicians
- o Refer concerns/celebrations to Liaison Coordinator
- o Be aware of needs for strategic consultation (addressed in training sessions)

Building Relationships with the Session

- Attend at least one Session meeting per year as a listener
- In consultation with Clerk of Session and Pastor(s) build other agenda matters as appropriate
- Be an ambassador for the Presbytery and PC(USA) to the Session
- Be aware of needs for strategic consultation

Documentation

- Fillable SmartSheet Webform for all contacts; face to face meetings, and phone calls, congregational visits
- Saving of emails—send to Chrissy for filing and maintain for personal records
- Avoid documentable correspondence through text or Facebook/other social media. Document only in SmartSheet.

Expenses: Mileage/phone calls (use free minutes)/tolls/parking/Meals -- limits