

HOLY TRINIT-Y COMMUNITY CHURCH, UCC
2020-2021 VESTRY APPLICATION
Application Due Nov 8, 2020

Prerequisites for Vestry Applicants:

Membership: Active Church Partner for at least the last 6 months

Attendance: Attends at least 3 out of 4 Sundays

Giving: Tithes regularly to Holy Trinity

Participation: Involved in at least one other ministry at Holy Trinity

Morality: Please see Ministry & Leadership Covenant and Safe Church Policy

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE: _____
EMAIL: _____

Please answer each question and return completed application, leadership covenant, & safe church form to Leonard, Angela or any current Vestry Member.

1. Describe your understanding of the ministry of Holy Trinity and how you have been affected by it.

2. Why do you want to serve on the Vestry?

3. What special gifts, talents, skills, and experiences will you bring to the Vestry?
 - a. What do you feel good about doing, in the sense of knowing you can do it well?

 - b. Do you consider yourself to be a leader, follower, or both? Please explain.

4. Are you able and willing to make the necessary time commitments required for Vestry service? (In addition to attending worship regularly and being involved in other church ministries, Vestry members

volunteer an average of 8-10 hours per month for Vestry specific duties. See attached page for breakdown of typical Vestry-specific time requirements.)

5. How do you relate to others?

- a. How do you react when someone disagrees with you?
- b. Can you support a decision to which you disagree with, but a majority has agreed to?
- c. What is your strength in relating to others?
- d. In your opinion, what is the best way to maintain unity within a leadership group?
- e. Are you committed to keeping peace and harmony within leadership and church?

6. What are your beliefs?

- a. What does it mean to be a Christian?
- b. If you are GLBT, have you reconciled your faith and orientation/gender identity?

I understand that serving on the Vestry is an honor. I believe I have the gifts and abilities, and have met the prerequisites necessary to run for a position. Please consider my application as a candidate in the upcoming Vestry elections.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Vestry Specific Volunteer Time Estimates:

Monthly Vestry Meetings = 8-10 hours per month

Offering Counting = Once every 4-6 weeks on Sundays after services (All Vestry Members except the Treasurer rotate this responsibility. The Treasurer abstains from counting the offering since he/she is involved in reviewing & reconciling financials.)

Sub-Committee Work = The timing of the hours spent depends on which sub-committee you serve. For example, the Finance Committee meets several hours in September & October to prepare for the next year's budget, and periodically throughout the year. Building & Grounds Committee members spend random hours throughout the year based on the maintenance & planning needs that arise. They oversee any work that is needed on the building. Others work concentrated hours on Special Projects (like the church directory) at specific times in the year.

Vestry Officers = In addition to the general Vestry work, the Officers spend additional time performing their duties. The Chair prepares the agenda for each meeting & is the central point of communication between meetings. The Secretary writes up and sends out meeting minutes between meetings. The Treasurer reviews & reconciles month end financial details with the Church Administrator and Accountant and presents reports to the Vestry.

General Emails/Communications = 3 hour/month.

HOLY TRINITY COMMUNITY CHURCH, UCC

Ministry and Leadership Covenant

In the Bible (James 3:1), we are told that those who lead are held to a higher standard than others. No Christian is required to be a leader, but if we answer God's call to ministry or leadership, then we must accept the responsibility as well as the honor. Below is an expression of what is expected of those who would like to serve in ministry and/or leadership at Holy Trinity Community Church, UCC.

LEADERSHIP COMMITMENTS

1. **Spiritual/Personal Growth:** Leaders commit to grow spiritually through regular attendance at worship, personal prayer & quiet time, and increasingly study of God's Word. Leaders actively exemplify the fruits of the Spirit. (Regular attendance at worship services is defined by attending a Holy Trinity worship service at least 3 out of 4 Sundays.)

2. **Exemplify Positive Faith:** Conversations that leaders have with others should demonstrate their faith in God's grace by choosing to be constructive, supportive and positive. Leaders believe that God can change a situation, and rather than simply complaining or criticizing, we pray and actively position ourselves in such a way to make a difference. We do not talk about the situation with anyone who is not directly involved in it or its solution.

3. **Financial Giving:** Leaders of Holy Trinity are expected to put their money where their commitment lies. The membership of our church has no reason to trust a leader's integrity if we are not honest in our financial covenant with God. Giving should reflect the commitment to lead our congregation.

4. **Prayer:** Leaders should regularly pray for our Pastor, Staff, Vestry, Small Group Leaders, Ministry Leaders, and others who are helping guide our church. We should be able to count on the sustaining prayers of our brothers and sisters of the faith.

5. **Living a Moral Life:** Leaders should exhibit a life guided by faithfulness and integrity in all affairs. Specifically related to sexual ethics, leaders and those in ministries of Holy Trinity are expected to avoid the destructive behaviors related to promiscuity, sexual abuse, profanity, pornography, exploitation or harassment, adultery and/or unfaithfulness to a committed partner or spouse. Abuse and exploitation also include emotional or physical abuse of a partner, spouse or child. Healthy sexual expression should occur within committed, monogamous relationships. Specifically related to alcohol and other drugs, leaders will not drink in excess, use illegal substances or abuse prescription drugs.

Mutual Accountability: The Bible calls us as Christians to: "submit to one another in love." (Ephesians 5:21) Leaders should be willing to receive instruction and constructive direction from those put in supervision over them. For the Body of Christ to be healthy, it is imperative that we all participate and share in mutual accountability in spiritual matters.

As a participant in ministry or leadership at Holy Trinity Community Church, UCC, I agree to uphold this covenant with other leaders of our church. If I find that I am unable to keep this covenant, I will seek council with appropriate leadership (Pastor, Personnel Committee, Supervisor, etc.) and will take prayerful steps to remedy the situation which may include resigning from the leadership position. May God's power and Spirit strengthen me to be faithful in reflecting the love of Jesus Christ to those around me.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please print name: _____