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Worship Ministry Team Leader

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Result Expected

An effective leader works with the pastor and others so that the congregation will provide opportunities for worship celebrations that focus on God and help people of all ages grow in their understanding of the gospel and become better equipped for daily living as faithful disciples.

Spiritual Gifts and Qualifications Helpful for the Job

- This ministry coordinator benefits from having one or more of these spiritual gifts: servanthood, teaching, exhortation (encouragement), leadership, wisdom, knowledge, faith, discernment, administration, evangelism, and shepherding.
- This leader should show evidence of passion for worshiping God and helping others worship through music, liturgy, and in personal and community practices.
- This leader shows evidence of growing discipleship.
- Useful skills for this position are the ability to listen to and communicate with people of all ages, interest in a wide range of worship experiences, interest in music and other worship-related arts, skills for researching worship issues and sensitivity both to what makes worship effective and ways people relate to God.

Responsibilities of the Position

- This leader will learn both about worship and about the people in the congregation and community to help plan worship appropriate to the congregation's gifts and needs. This leader needs to be open to both a variety of worship styles and to the congregation's traditions.
- This leader will work with the pastor and other leaders in planning worship. The coordinator will provide support for worship by identifying, training, and supporting worship leaders such as acolytes, artists, Scripture readers, ushers, greeters, and others.
- This leader will be familiar with United Methodist resources, facilitate their use, and will be able to recommend appropriate resources for educating all age levels and faith stages about worship life.
- This leader will promote and foster regular individual and family worship and spiritual formation.
- This leader will work with other ministry leaders so that worship celebrates the whole life of the congregation and community.

Getting Started

1. Learn from people in your congregation, in the community, and in other congregations whose theology and approach to worship are compatible with those of United Methodists. Attend worship in other congregations, especially as you travel, and bring insights gained back to your congregation.
2. Learn the stories, gifts, and passions of people in your community and especially ways that worship can enable them to share their stories, gifts, and passions in ways that will build up the community at worship and in mission. Notice ways to offer worship opportunities outside the church building.
3. Soon after you are elected, convene a meeting of people to evaluate, share hopes and concerns, and plan for your

work. Share the ministry with others by delegating projects to people in the church or community who have both passion and gifts for particular worship expressions.

4. Help the congregation understand that a vital Christian faith includes regular worship, both individually and corporately.

People and Agencies That Can Help

- Your pastor, people in your congregation, the community, and other congregations who share your theology and approach to Christian worship.
- Discipleship Ministries, toll-free (877) 899- 2780; www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship or email worship@UMCdiscipleship.org.
- InfoServ, the information service for the church, provides current information about United Methodist resources, programs, and staff services. Email: infoserv@umcom.org; Website: infoserv.umc.org.

Web and Print Resources

- ***Africana Worship Book, Years A, B, and C*** edited by Valerie Bridgeman Davis (Nashville: Discipleship Resources)
- ***Baptism: Understanding God's Gift*** by Edward and Sara Webb Phillips (Nashville: The Upper Room, 2014)
- ***The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church, 2016*** (Nashville: The United Methodist Publishing House, 2016)
- ***By Water and the Spirit: Making Connections for Identity and Ministry*** by Gayle Carlton Felton (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1997)
- ***Come, Come, Everybody Worship*** by Carolyn Tanner (OSL Publications, 2008)
- Discipleship Ministries, toll-free (877) 899- 2780; www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship or email worship@UMCdiscipleship.org.
- ***Guidelines for Leading Your Congregation 2017-2020: Worship*** (United Methodist Publishing House, 2016)
- ***I Belong to God: An Intergenerational Study of Baptism in The United Methodist Church*** by Carolyn Tanner (OSL Publications, 2008)
- ***In Spirit and Truth: United Methodist Worship for the Emerging Church*** by L. Edward Phillips, Sara Phillips
- *Interpreter*, www.interpretermagazine.org
- ***Leading Worship*** by Taylor Burton-Edwards (Discipleship Resources)
- *Lift Up Your Heart, Volume 1, Volume 2, and Volume 3* by Michael J. O'Donnell (CreateSpace)
- ***Living into the Mystery: A United Methodist Guide for Celebrating Holy Communion*** by Taylor Burton Edwards (Discipleship Resources - pdf)
- ***Ordo: Bath, Word, Table, Prayer*** by Dirk Lange and Dwight Vogel (OSL Publications, 2005)
- ***Patterned by Grace: How Liturgy Shapes Us*** by Daniel T. Benedict, Jr. (Nashville: The Upper Room, 2007)
- ***Planning Worship*** by Taylor Burton-Edwards (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2013)
- ***Rock of Ages: A Worship and Songbook for Retirement Living*** (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2014)
- ***The United Methodist Book of Worship*** (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1992)
- ***This Holy Mystery: A Study Guide for Children and Youth*** by Carolyn Tanner (OSL Publications, 2006; available from amazon.com)
- ***This Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding of Holy Communion*** by Gayle Carlton Felton (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2005)
- ***The Work of the People: What We Do in Worship and Why*** by Marlea Gilbert, Christopher Grundy, Eric T. Myers, Stephanie Perdue (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2006)
- ***The Worship Workshop: Creative Ways to Design Worship Together*** (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2002) by Marcia McFee