

Pastor Parish Relations Committee

Pastor Parish Relations Committee (PPRC) Role in Church Governance

The Pastor Parish Relations Committee (PPRC) is the successor committee to the committee that was previously known as the Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC). As a standing Governance Board committee, the PPRC assists the Board in developing employee policies, liaising with bishops on clergy and pastor evaluations, ensuring compliance with applicable laws, and carrying the staff grievance process as defined by the Governance Board policies. The PPRC has no staff management authority and does not participate in supervision of staff or staff decision-making. The PPRC's role and functions are guided by The Book of Discipline.

PPRC Activities to date for 2021

The PPRC was asked to provide feedback for each of the AFUMC ministers based upon PPRC members' interactions with each of the ministers, input from congregants who had been known to interface with the ministers through church activities, and observations from church leadership. The PPRC Chair, along with Rev. Dr. Stephen Cady, met with each of the ministers to provide that feedback and to better understand what kind of support each minister felt would enhance his/her abilities to better discharge their duties.

The PPRC explored in depth the opportunity that was presented to AFUMC to pilot Rev Rachel Dupont's Discipleship Project and provided its endorsement to the Governing Board for the project, along with Rev Dupont's appointment, if the Governing Board would be able to provide the resources to support the project.

With Rev. Jackie Nelson's resignation from her full-time role as Minister for Outreach, the PPRC will be working closely with Rev Dr. Stephen Cady and the Governing Board in the development of an appropriate staffing strategy that will meet the needs for the new Outreach Center and other church activities in alignment with AFUMC's stated mission and vision.

The PPRC continues its wholehearted support of Michael Mullin in his career aspirations for the ministry in the UMC.

Since there have been continual salary/benefits freezes for the ministers over several years as part of the church budgetary process, it appears to be highly unlikely that the salaries and benefits for the current ministers have been comparable to those of other Methodist congregations of similar size to AFUMC. Consequently, the PPRC is in the midst of conducting a benchmarking survey with regional and other US Methodist churches of a similar size as AFUMC and also of other Protestant denominations to better gauge what might be a need for future salary/benefits adjustments.