

John 13:12-15

When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place.

“Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them.

“You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am.

Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet.

I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

Report of the Leadership Development Committee

June 2018

The Leadership Development Committee of the Missouri Mid-South Conference is largely charged with: cultivating and nurturing Conference leadership. At times this role can be very fluid and extend to other church ministries and settings.

In simple terms, this means our main responsibility is identifying leadership to serve our Conference or in representing our conference, such as a Synod. A key factor to remember is that individuals are not representing their church, or the association their church holds membership with. And they are not delegates or elected by either of those organizations. Instead, they are representing the Conference and are elected, or appointed, by the Conference.

Therefore, when identifying leaders, we cast our net far and wide. We start by recognizing our needs. Every situation is unique and may require special experience or expertise. We then work with the associations, local churches, and via the *eCourier*, to solicit and identify qualified leadership candidates for election to the Conference Council and as Synod delegates, and for other UCC related obligations. The committee considers many factors including individual professional expertise and experience which might be beneficial in fulfilling the legal and fiduciary duties, and accountability practices of the conference. The committee further pays particular attention to reflect upon the diversity and demographic base of our congregations and their membership

The names of those proposed for election at the Conference Annual Gathering in June 2017 can be found in the minutes of that meeting. And those that are being slated in June 2018, as approved by the Conference Council, are part of the Conference Annual Gathering agenda.

The role of this committee does not end. We are always in a “seeking” mode. Although, we are blessed with having a wide range of individuals willing to accept the call to leadership, identifying and cultivating those individuals is an ongoing mission of the committee and can be challenging. It could not be accomplished without the help of the full membership of the conference.

The Ambassador program offers another wonderful opportunity to serve our conference. Conference Ambassadors act as “connectors” within the body. They are fundamental in nurturing the relationships with and within the Conference, by creating a rapport between congregations and individuals (rather than congregation connections solely with Conference staff). Training and ongoing support is provided. Contact the conference office for more information.

THIS IS OUR CHALLENGE TO YOU:

Focus on your uniqueness. Consider your abilities and talents. What are your leadership strengths? Look for ways to get involved.

Are YOU willing to accept the joy of serving? Please feel free to stop by our table at the Conference Annual Gathering! Or go here: <https://goo.gl/forms/22QbTRa4vya9MFgk2>

Laura Dierberg Ayers
Rev. Ginny Brown Daniel, CM
Rev. Alan Gatewood

Elaine Hudson
Rev. David Mehl, Moderator

Rev. Laura Mignerone
Rev. Donna Smith - Pupillo