

# **Pastoral Care Plan**

## **Woodland Presbyterian Church**

*Revised 2/9/2020*

**Background:** Woodland Presbyterian Church is a community supporting one another in so many beautiful, unscripted ways. Yet at the same time, the church's leadership desires to ensure that the pastoral care of its members and friends is readily available from trained pastors connected to the church. The following document represents a draft of information that might be made available on the church website.

### ***Who do I contact when I have a pastoral need?***

Anyone can request pastoral care for themselves or for others by contacting the church (email: [connections@woodlandnash.org](mailto:connections@woodlandnash.org)). The need will be passed along to one of the pastors connected to Woodland (Mark DeVries, Carrie Fraser, Andrew Ward, Meredith Cox, or Steven Musick) who will respond promptly. At various times, there may be training hub members who are similarly trained and equipped to give pastoral care and may be added to the above list of pastors. All pastoral care conversations are treated with confidentiality, except in cases in which those seeking help may be a danger to themselves or others.

### ***Pastoral Care Resources Available to the Congregation***

#### **· Weddings**

- As guided by our wedding policy, we welcome anyone who desires to have a wedding at the church. A copy of the wedding policy will be sent to the person making the request.
- A member of the Training Hub team will contact the person with the request and discuss the specific requests for their wedding.
- Ordinarily, a pastor connected to Woodland Presbyterian Church will serve as the officiant of the wedding and may invite assisting pastors when requested by the couple.
- The officiating pastor will meet with the couple at least once and either provide subsequent premarital counseling sessions or refer the couple to qualified counselors.

#### **· Hospitalizations/Surgeries/Chronic Illness**

- When a church member is in the hospital, going into surgery, or experiencing chronic illness and desires a visit, prayer, or a phone call, they can contact the church or any of the training hub team directly.
- When a church member is aware of someone going in the hospital, going into surgery, etc. they should also contact the church or any of the hub team directly.
- A member of the hub team will gladly call or make a home or hospital visit.

### **Funerals**

- When a family desires to have a funeral service at Woodland, they can contact the church and one of the pastors connected with Woodland will call to respond to such a request
- It is assumed that families will calendar and secure the pastor for the funeral before publishing the obituary with arrangements.
- Ordinarily, funerals held at the church are officiated by a pastor connected to Woodland, who may, upon request from the family, invite other pastors to assist in officiating.

### **At Home Communion**

- Shut-ins in the church who desire to have communion brought to their home periodically can request at-home communion at any time simply by calling the church.
- One of the pastors connected to Woodland and one of the elders will schedule and make a home visit.

There are times when the members or friends of Woodland desire to request prayer. Any of the pastors connected to Woodland are available for such requests and honored to pray with those both inside and outside the Woodland family. Prayer can be offered in person, over the phone, or simply received as a request to pray on their own.