

Unitarian Universalist Church of St. Petersburg
Worship Committee Draft Charter

(For consideration by the Board of Trustees at its Feb. 14 meeting)

Purpose:

The purpose of the Worship Committee is to promote excellence in our worship services, to assist in planning and carrying out worship services, and to provide a conduit for input and feedback about worship from all members of the church community.

The Committee shall be mindful that a liberal religious community such as ours holds diverse opinions on worship and, therefore, shall provide ample opportunity for input and feedback from the congregation regarding worship.

Responsibilities & activities

The Worship Committee shall hold regularly scheduled meetings to discuss issues related to worship and to assist the minister and music director in making decisions on worship. Issues to be considered shall include, but not be limited to: evaluation of worship elements, liturgical structure of the worship service, providing for the appropriate environment of the worship spaces, planning for special services, working with the minister to fill the pulpit when the minister is away, developing mechanisms for congregational input and feedback on worship, developing mechanisms for decision-making on worship issues that balance congregational autonomy and polity with the spiritual leadership of the minister.

Membership

The Worship Committee shall consist of a chair appointed by the president of the Board of Trustees and approved by the Board of Trustees, and additional church members who volunteer to serve on the committee. Nonmembers are welcome to participate in the committee's discussions and activities but do not have a vote. The minister and music director are ex officio members.

Meetings

The Committee shall meet monthly during the main part of the church year and at least once during the summer. Additional meetings may be scheduled as needed at the discretion of the chair upon notification of every member.

Reports

The chair (or other designated person) shall provide a written report for the annual congregational meeting and may also provide a monthly report to the Board of Trustees on the committee's activities as well as providing information on those activities for the monthly Scope newsletter and Infonet.

Budget & spending

The Committee will prepare a worship program budget and in conjunction with the music director prepare a music budget for consideration by the Finance Committee. The proposed budget for the upcoming church year will be completed in accordance with the schedule determined by the Finance Committee. Barring unforeseen circumstances that require spending of an emergency nature, the committee will work within that budget for the church fiscal year beginning July 1 and ending June 30.