

Elder Report

September 2019

Joel Weidner for the Elders

Meredith Wideman recently began her new three-year term as elder, starting in August one month early. She joins Joel Weidner in his third year and Leland Glenna and Rosita Derstine, both beginning their second year as elders.

The elders continue to meet monthly with pastor Kate on the first Wednesday of each month. On odd numbered months we participate in joint meetings with the leadership team (chair, asst. chair, elders, and pastor) at 6:30 pm with elders meeting at 7:30 pm. On even numbered months the elders meet at 6:30 pm.

During our meeting we discuss pastoral care issues, check in with pastor Kate and consider broader spiritual issues facing the church.

Over the last several months the elders have been considering the meaning and practice of communion within our church. Based on feedback from the congregation we have decided to increase the frequency of practicing communion, moving to a once per month schedule this fall, generally on the first Sunday of the month (with flexibility for special dates/services). We would like to plan additional discussion times with the broader congregation (probably during the adult Sunday school hour) to focus on the practice and meaning of communion at UMC. Our hope is that we can move as a congregation to a more open communion table.

UMC community members are always welcome to reach out to one or more of the elders with any concerns or suggestions. You can email all the elders by using the email elders@universitymennonite.org (note: this email list does not include pastor Kate).