

Proposal to change the number of elders.

The Leadership Team moves that we decrease the number of elders from 4 to 3, and that we change our practice of striving for equal numbers of male and female elders to striving to maintain gender diversity among the elders.

Grounds:

UMC was served by 3 elders for many years. We increased to 4 elders when our congregation size increased. Our congregation size is again similar to what it was when we had 3 elders.

Because of our smaller congregation size, we have a smaller pool of members who can serve and are willing to serve as elders.

Striving for gender diversity in the elder team rather than male-female balance is in keeping with being a welcoming congregation.