

CORE VALUES

1. We are a family in faith.
2. We embrace all ages and stages.
3. We are authentically accepted.
4. We value God's message.
5. We value presence over appearance.
6. We value love without limits.
7. We commit to worship and prayer.
8. We commit to give in gratitude.
9. We commit to seek to serve.

Access To Church Council Minutes

Minutes of council meetings and documents are available in the church office to LOUMC member and its regular worship attendees.

Accomplishments

- Adopted an innovative structure for church governance that is spiritually guided by a covenant relationship.
- Adopted a formal Church Council Covenant.
- Developed Guiding Principles for ministry under the simplified accountable leadership model.
- Developed and approved the church-wide budget.
- Formed a Church Security group to analyze and develop policies to cover emergency situations.
- Helped facilitate transitions following Covid pandemic restrictions that required cancellation of church services and activities.
- Approved installation of new audio-visual system and video screens in the sanctuary.
- Approved initiation of live-streaming church services on Facebook and YouTube.
- Approved necessary maintenance by cleaning the church's exterior and gutters, re-sealing expansion joints, and repainting exterior and entrance.
- Reinvigorated the church's image by approving:
 - developing new church logo and QR code,
 - updating church bulletin with new format,
 - refreshing old paint in hallways and foorframes,
 - decorating the children's hallway with new graphics and paint,
 - renovating narthex with new paint and furnishings, including new coffee bar and welcome area, and by
 - transforming the prayer chapel into a new Sunday School/Family Room.

LONE  OAK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Church Council Overview

Governance with Accountability

Mission of the United Methodist Church

*To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the
transformation of the world*

Mission of LOUMC

*Building bridges to show every child of
God is worthy of Christ's love.*



The Council Structure & Commitment

Lone Oak United Methodist Church (LOUMC) adopted a simplified, accountable leadership structure in 2017. *Simplified* by merging several leadership teams into one smaller governing council. *Accountable* through commitment to and tracking of progress in completing the mission.

As spiritual leaders and the governing body for LOUMC, the Council is committed to the congregation and one another. In all things the Council strives to discern God's will for LOUMC, follow Jesus' example of leading by being servants, and build up one another toward spiritual maturity.

The Roles of the council, Pastor, Staff, and Church Members

Council – Governs by providing accountability and support for the Pastor.

Pastor – Leads Ministry by providing vision, direction, teaching, and supervising Staff (paid and unpaid).

Staff (paid/unpaid) – Manages Ministry by coordinating and equipping church members; handles the day-to-day operations and functions of the church.

Church Members – Carry out the ministries of the church, first through outreach, then by caring for one another.

The Council's Three Responsibilities

Represent Jesus Christ as the owner of the congregation.

Write and adjust the Guiding Principles to ensure that the Mission of Jesus Christ is carried out within parameters acceptable to Jesus Christ.

Oversee and administer the merged responsibilities of the Charge Conference, Church Council, Pastor Parish Relations Committee, Board of Trustees, and the Finance Committee

Guiding Principles

There are three principles that comprise the Guiding Principles.

1. **Mission Principles** – These principles define the object of ministry, the responsibility of the pastor, and the ends to be achieved.
2. **Boundary Principles** – sets out the rules of ministry, the authority of the pastor (i.e., anything within the boundaries is preauthorized), the limitations on acceptable means.
3. **Accountability Principles** – describe how the board will evaluate the results of ministry, the accountability of the pastor, and the procedures for oversight.

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You can also find us on Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, and X (formerly Twitter).

The Council's Covenant

1. We will pray daily for members of the Church Council, the pastor, the staff, the congregation, and the ministry of our church.

2. We will strive to uphold our vows to support the church through our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. This should include:

(a) Having an active prayer life (b) Being present in worship on a consistent basis (c) Tithing or moving toward a tithe (d) Serving on a ministry team, ministry project, and/or faith development group (e) Sharing our faith with others both within the church and in the secular world.

3. We will develop congregational trust in the Council's leadership and direction. At a minimum, trust will be fostered in the following areas or focus:

(a) Achieving results—Fulfillment of results promised to others; (b) Acting with integrity—Following a known set of values, beliefs, and practices with consistency and coherence between words and actions (i.e., walk the talk.) Council actions will be communicated openly and honestly; (c) Demonstrating Concern—Caring for the concerns, well-being, and success of people at all levels of the congregation and understanding and considering the consequences of Council actions on others.

4. We will encourage and support the pastor and other Council members.

5. We will hold ourselves, the pastor, and each other accountable for our roles and responsibilities. This includes allowing others to hold us accountable.

6. We will be present and on time for Council meetings and notify the chair of pastor in advance if unable to attend. We commit to a minimum attendance level of 75%.

7. We will review the meeting packet prior to the Council meetings and arrive fully prepared and ready to participate.

8. We will engage in and contribute to Council discussions and decisions with open minds, respect for one another, and passion.

9. We will speak with a unified voice by supporting Council decisions openly and publicly regardless of personal agreement with the decision.