

TOOL 28

PASTOR-CHURCH RELATIONS TEAM

Purpose

The pastor-church relations team serves as a liaison support group between the pastor and the congregation. It is not to serve as an oversight group.

Responsibilities

1. To give relational support to the pastor and his family
2. To serve as a sounding board for the pastor's personal and church concerns
3. To bring the church's concerns to the pastor
4. To be a resource to the pastor in prayer, understanding, and ministry

Procedures

1. The team is composed of six or nine persons who serve on a three-year rotation, with two or three being new appointees each year.
2. The pastor recommends six or nine persons to the nominating committee. The nominating committee considers these and other appropriate persons, from whom the church nominates six or nine. The persons nominated should represent an appropriate diversity of ages, genders, and opinions.
3. The team meets at least quarterly and/or as needed.
4. The pastor and/or the chairman can initiate a called meeting.
5. The team elects a chairman.

Values

1. This team ensures that the pastor has a support group to whom he can turn for counsel and advice.
2. This team provides a communication link between the congregation and the pastor. This point of contact is particularly important for individuals who don't feel comfortable going directly to the pastor.
3. The pastor has a feedback group whom he can consult to check the congregation's perception of his work.