

Congregation and Pastoral Priorities

Peace Mennonite Church, Lawrence, KS - March 2025

High

1. Pastor actively participates in planning, designing, and leading worship services.
2. Pastor embraces the priesthood of all believers—sharing leadership in the congregation by including, empowering, and equipping congregation members for leadership.
3. Pastor connects the call of Jesus to contemporary issues of justice and peace, developing strategies to engage in what God is doing to restore Shalom.
4. Pastor engages in self-care, managing self in ministry in ways that ensure emotional health, maintain healthy boundaries, and make space for healthy accountability.
5. Pastor models healthy ways of living with congregational differences, working at conflict resolution, problem-solving, and communal decision-making processes.
6. Pastor prepares and delivers Bible-based sermons.

7. Pastor is actively involved in teaching Scripture and theology for the purpose of equipping people to grow in their faith and practice.
8. Pastor leads in developing effective and transparent communication.
9. Pastor visits those in hospitals, emergency situations, and long-term care facilities—informing the congregation of opportunities to provide mutual support and care.
10. -Pastor is personally engaged in the community, working with community groups, local ecumenical groups, and interfaith efforts.
-Pastor provides leadership in assessing the formation needs of the congregation and helps develop opportunities for growth and transformation.
-Pastor is committed to gifts-based ministry, helping congregation members identify their spiritual gifts and empowering their use in ministry.
13. Pastor has a good working knowledge of Anabaptist history and theology and is able to connect that history to contemporary questions and challenges.
14. Pastor spends time reading contemporary books related to issues in biblical interpretation and application.
15. Pastor helps connect the gifts and capacities of the congregation to the needs of persons outside the church—creating space for new persons to enter into and connect to the congregation.
16. Pastor facilitates the development and implementation of vision, mission, and goals with the congregation, including appropriate administrative and supervisory responsibilities.
17. Pastor models and teaches personal and communal spiritual practices.

18. Pastor prioritizes important rituals of commitment, transition, and healing with individuals, family, and congregation (infant dedication, baptism, weddings, funerals, communion, footwashing, etc.).

Low

19. Pastor initiates counseling and pastoral care for those within and outside the congregation and makes appropriate referrals.
20. -Pastor fosters a discipleship culture in which members follow Jesus in relationships of mutual accountability.
-Pastor spends time studying the Bible for the purpose of ministry.
22. Pastor leads the church in proclaiming the good news in word and deed, leading to individual growth, congregational growth, and/or church planting.
23. Pastor supports the conference and denomination by what they do and say— helping the congregation connect to the wider church.
24. Pastor works with the congregation to develop healthy stewardship practices, including a system of responsible budgeting, financial management, and financial decision making.