

## Board and Committee Descriptions

Committing to one of UCG's many boards and committees is an exciting opportunity to strengthen UCG's foundation of lay leadership, deepen your connections, and grow spiritually.

Please note, due to the time commitment, members are only allowed to sign up for one board or committee. However, there are a few auxiliary committees that allow you to serve, and also be on a regular board or committee.

### These Boards/Committees are related to the administrative functions of the church.

<b>Board of Business (BoB) - *UCG membership is required to join this board</b>			
<b>Mission:</b> The business of the BoB is to enable UCG to meet its mission by providing stewardship for UCG assets and resources through: • Overseeing and authorizing Church expenditures, including salaries and benefits for staff personnel. • Supervising the Church's operational budget. • Managing and overseeing all financial assets and liabilities not included in the Endowment. • Maintaining care and custody of all Church property, facilities, and physical resources, including procuring and disposing of real property as directed by the congregation. • Planning for short-term and long-term capital needs. • Overseeing UCG fundraising processes, including but not limited to facilitation of the annual enlistment campaign.			
<b>Meeting Information:</b>			
<b>Days:</b> 2nd Thursday of the month	<b>Frequency:</b> Every month	<b>Time:</b> 6 p.m	<b>Format:</b> Zoom
<b>Two highlights you can expect this year:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Developing the church's annual operating budget and adjusting as necessary for presentation to and approval by the congregation.</li><li>2. Supporting and participating in the annual fall stewardship campaign that supports the operating budget.</li></ol>			

<b>Board of Endowment Management (BEM) - *UCG membership is required to join this board</b>			
<b>Mission:</b> The board monitors the financial progress of the Endowment fund and reviews applications for grants from the Endowment.			
<b>Meeting Information:</b>			

<b>Days:</b> Thursdays	<b>Frequency:</b> 4 times per year; more often as needed	<b>Time:</b> 5:30 pm	<b>Format:</b> Zoom
<p><b>Two highlights you can expect this year:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Monitoring and reviewing applications for grant funding from the Endowment.</li> <li>2. In the past we've also provided seminars on budgeting and financial management for young families.</li> <li>3. We are open to suggestions and expertise of new committee members to enhance and grow UCG's Endowment fund.</li> </ol>			

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**These Boards/Committees are related to ministries and activities within the church.**

<b>Board of Membership</b>			
<b>Mission:</b> We welcome visitors to our congregation, invite new members to be a part of our church and facilitate the full integration of everyone into our diverse spiritual community.			
<b>Meeting Information:</b>			
<b>Days:</b> Second Sunday of the month	<b>Frequency:</b> Every month	<b>Time:</b>	<b>Format:</b>
<p><b>Two highlights you can expect this year:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 3x yearly welcoming new member events.</li> <li>2. Also, every member is encouraged to participate as a greeter on Sunday morning at the BoM visitors' welcome table.</li> </ol>			

<b>Board of Children, Youth, and Families (BYCF)</b>			
<b>Mission:</b> We support and collaborate with staff responsible for children and youth programs. BCYF provides programming that exemplifies the values reflected in the UCG compact. Programming will foster connection within and across age groups, include opportunities for service, and include spiritual, educational and social components.			

<b>Meeting Information:</b>			
<b>Days:</b> 4th Wednesday of the month; and the 1st Wednesday in December	<b>Frequency:</b> Monthly (August-May)	<b>Time:</b> 8pm	<b>Format:</b> —
<p><b>Two highlights you can expect this year:</b> We continue to assist in carrying on some time-honored traditions: stuffing eggs for the children's Easter Egg Hunt and hosting the Annual Children's Holiday Craft Fair.</p> <p>Additional Notes: BCYF is not only for families with young children; we welcome parents, grandparents, teachers, folks with grown children, folks with no children, folks with children however known, dads, moms, grandpas, grandmas. There's room for you! Additionally, while our Board directly supports youth and families, we do not directly provide the spiritual education of children and youth in our church; this component is handled by Talia and the Youth and United Tribes staff and volunteers. That means you do not have to directly work with kids (unless you want to). There are opportunities to use gifts of cooking, organization, conference or activity planning, teaching, gift wrapping, crafting and more!</p>			

<b>Board of Parish Ministry</b>			
<p><b>Mission:</b> The Board of Parish Ministry supports the ministers in developing and implementing worship services. We plan and lead 3-4 BPM services each year to provide our ministers with needed breaks, and assist throughout the year in preparing the sanctuary for worship and serving communion.</p>			
<b>Meeting Information:</b>			
<b>Days:</b> First Sunday of the month	<b>Frequency:</b> Monthly	<b>Time:</b> 6-7pm	<b>Format:</b>
<p><b>Two highlights you can expect this year:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We love working together to plan spiritually satisfying and creative BPM services throughout the year.</li> <li>2. We also enjoy the meaningful behind-the-scenes work of preparing the sanctuary for worship.</li> </ol>			

**The BOARD OF PARISH MINISTRY is also composed of two committees:**

<b>Lively Arts Committee</b>			
<b>Mission:</b> Our mission is to reach every member of the congregation through the performing and visual arts, to enhance and expand spiritual expression, and to provide additional avenues of spiritual service for visual and performing artists.			
<b>Meeting Information:</b>			
<b>Days:</b> Sunday AM	<b>Frequency:</b> TBA about every 6 weeks	<b>Time:</b> After church service	<b>Format:</b> In person and zoom
<p><b>Two highlights you can expect this year:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We decorate the Sanctuary to set the mood for each worship theme in collaboration with the ministers and BPM.</li> <li>2. We create opportunities to bring out musical talent within our congregation. We work in cooperation with the Musical Exploration Team to help locate musical enhancements for the services. Our Art in the Library series provides a venue for our many UCG artists. We anticipate organizing an Art Showcase again this year to encourage both church and community members to share their artistic endeavors.</li> </ol> <p>Additional notes: It is not necessary to be an artist or musician to be a valuable member of this committee. We welcome people who are full of ideas and willing to participate in turning ideas into reality.</p>			

<b>Kairos</b>			
<b>Mission:</b> Our group joined together to address prayer concerns of UCG congregants. The purpose of Kairos is to ensure that congregants receive compassion and care. Ways to serve include sending cards, providing meals, making visits or phone calls, and offering help to those with chronic or long-term illness or needing end-of-life support.			
<b>Meeting Information:</b>			
<b>Days:</b> —	<b>Frequency:</b> Meetings 2 or 3 times per year.	<b>Time:</b> TBA	<b>Format:</b> —
<p><b>Two highlights you can expect this year:</b></p> <p>We fulfill the role of “care of the congregation by the congregation across the life course of our members.” Some highlights include managing the card table, staffing memorial receptions, preparing gift baskets for our homebound members at Christmas time, and having a midwife member take a gift basket to families with new babies or adopted children.</p>			

**The BOARD OF ADULT MINISTRY is composed of two committees:**

<b>Small Groups Committee</b>			
<b>Mission:</b> We envision, plan and coordinate small group offerings of spiritual growth and personal enrichment; and trips, retreats, outreach and fellowship opportunities for our family of faith.			
<b>Meeting Information:</b>			
<b>Days:</b> There will be two meetings for the fall sessions and two meetings for the spring sessions.	<b>Frequency:</b> Planning meetings to put together the fall and spring sessions.	<b>Time:</b> The times will be determined by the committee before each session.	<b>Format:</b> Zoom or Hybrid
<b>Two highlights you can expect this year:</b> Our highlights are the fall and spring small group offerings. There is the occasional opportunity to coordinate small group offerings with seminars.			

<b>Seminar Committee</b>			
<b>Mission:</b> We provide opportunities for enrichment and connection by offering seminars that contribute to the spiritual, personal and intellectual growth of our congregation.			
<b>Meeting Information:</b>			
<b>Days:</b> Third Thursday of the month	<b>Frequency:</b> Once a month, beginning in September; break in December and summer	<b>Time:</b> 6 pm	<b>Format:</b> Zoom
<b>Two highlights you can expect this year:</b> Each fall we enjoy a morning retreat, where we munch on brownies and get to know each other in person. Our monthly Zoom meetings offer wonderful opportunities to share information about exciting and thought-provoking topics. Past seminars have included: nationally acclaimed author Stacy Steinberger on “Sharenting,” Gainesville Public Defender Stacy Scott on the criminal justice system, attorney Adriane Isenberg on legal documents to complete before death, the Rev. Daniel Webster on “Faith as a Journey, not a Destination,” a Racial Justice Committee panel on voter suppression, Sandy Reimer on “When the Veil Between Heaven and Earth is Wafer Thin,” and “Emerging from Introvert Heaven,” a discussion facilitated by Connie Caldwell. These			

are just a few of the presentations we have hosted in the past two years. Come share your ideas!

**These Boards/Committees are related to ministries and activities outside the church.**

**The BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE is composed of two committees:**

<b>Compassion in Action (CIA)</b>			
<b>Mission:</b> Be a conduit for the UCG Congregation to provide funds, goods and services to people in need in our community, near or far.			
<b>Meeting Information:</b>			
<b>Days:</b> 2nd Tuesday of the month	<b>Frequency:</b> Sept-Nov, Jan-Mar, holiday get together	<b>Time:</b> 6:30-7:30pm	<b>Format:</b> Hybrid: In person or via Zoom
<b>Two highlights you can expect this year:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Successful Christmas Angel Gift Market at Rawlings Elementary.</li><li>2. Preparing colorful and useful Gift Bags for the Homeless in partnership with the UCG Youth Group.</li></ol> Help us guide the congregation through providing compassion in action.			

<b>Family Promise Committee - Auxiliary Committee</b>
<b>Mission:</b> We assist and support community efforts to serve the homeless and provide an opportunity for our church community to serve families in need.
<b>Meeting Information:</b> We don't meet regularly! We do meet annually at the All-Board Kickoff and then sometimes have a meeting or training as needed.
<b>Two highlights you can expect this year:</b> <p>In addition to our four Family Promise hostings and Grace Marketplace events, the highlights of our year center around involving children and youth in our mission.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Youth United big kids serve a meal during the holidays at Grace Marketplace</li><li>2. We help kids of all ages design gift bags filled with necessities for families experiencing homelessness, expressing wonderful drawings and sentiments such as "you are not alone, but not in a creepy way" and "you are loved." Family Promise is a hands-on committee where your efforts are immediately experienced by local families</li></ol>

most in need. There is a role for everyone, big or small. Drop off a gallon of milk or bring your own kiddos to have dinner and dance parties with children who will so cherish a fun, carefree evening with new friends.

**The JUSTICE LEAGUE is composed of three committees:**

<b>Open and Affirming Committee (ONA)</b>			
<b>Mission:</b> We promote within UCG an inclusive spiritual sanctuary for LGBTQ+ individuals through awareness, positive messages, allyship, and education so that together we recognize we are all celebrated as children of God and, beyond our church, engage with the larger community to inform, promote, educate and advocate an open and affirming ministry. In brief, we educate, celebrate and advocate equal rights for all.			
<b>Meeting Information:</b>			
<b>Days:</b> First Thursday of the month	<b>Frequency:</b> Monthly; August/Sept is a big planning time in preparation for October Pride. Another highlight is during the legislative session in March plan for advocacy work.	<b>Time:</b> 6 pm	<b>Format:</b> Hybrid format, in person at UCG and a Zoom option.
<b>Two highlights you can expect this year:</b>			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. New members always enjoy participating in the lead-up and events of Pride Weekend.</li> <li>2. We are also planning another seminar this year and want to remind our community in every way possible that we need to commit ourselves and encourage the community to take responsibility for continued support of LGBTQ+ causes, and especially, to promote protections for the most marginalized members of the LGBTQ+ community.</li> </ol>			

<b>Environmental Justice</b>			
<b>Mission:</b> As a Creation Justice Church, UCG advocates and educates alongside community partners for a restored Earth and environmental justice for all.			
<b>Meeting Information:</b>			
<b>Days:</b> 3rd Wednesdays	<b>Frequency:</b> Monthly	<b>Time:</b> 5-6 pm	<b>Format:</b> Zoom

**Two highlights you can expect this year: Climate Change Summit at UCG** on Sept. 30 featuring local mayors and national speakers. We will also hold additional movie screenings and discussions. A celebration will be planned once the UCG solar panels are functional.

### Racial Justice Committee (RJC)

**Mission:** We educate about white privilege and systemic racism, and build community partnerships to advocate for racial justice.

#### Meeting Information:

<b>Days:</b> 2nd Thursday of the month	<b>Frequency:</b> Each month; skip May, June, July	<b>Time:</b> 11am	<b>Format:</b> —
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**Two highlights you can expect this year:**

1. We organized a trip to Selma and Montgomery as part of our county-wide Truth and Reconciliation Process. We have provided opportunities for learning about racial disparities inside and outside the UCG community.
2. Most importantly, we have established a visible public presence for our church as a voice for racial equality and justice. Please join us to help build a beloved community here in Gainesville.