

JOB SUMMARY

PASTOR

Suquamish United Church of Christ

We strongly believe in collaborative leadership. The pastor, staff, and lay leaders should operate as colleagues. The pastor should be aware of activities of the church and have confidence in lay leaders. In turn, lay leaders should keep the pastor fully informed of all program activities.

The congregation seeks a balance between being overly burdened with and left out of ministerial leadership. For example, the pastor should be a natural leader who ensures that the coordination of events in the life of the church are executed smoothly. This is someone who is at ease with keeping track of both the big picture and the details: from the proactive handling of communication to the coordination of tasks and logistics. The pastor should be willing to empower and collaborate with lay leaders, prioritizing the wishes and desires of the congregation as they take on the larger picture of worship and ministry.

Following are the highest-priority pastoral leadership expectations of the congregation:

- Is an effective preacher/speaker
- Is a compassionate and caring person
- Is accepting of people with divergent views
- Maintains an active presence in the community
- Has strong commitment to the educational ministry of the church
- Encourages interfaith and multi-denominational relationships and encourages the church to participate
- Is a good leader, skilled in planning and leading programs
- Deals effectively with conflict
- Is energetic and enthusiastic
- Helps people work together in solving problems
- Builds a sense of fellowship among the people with whom he/she works
- Encourages people to relate their faith to their daily lives
- Is a person of faith
- Is creative and innovative

The pastor should have primary leadership of the visitation ministry, in collaboration with Called to Care.

The lay leadership has a history of active participation in the planning and execution of worship. The worship committee has historically had input in the choice of music, the format of worship, set up of the sanctuary, and specific, periodic rituals. Additionally, there has been a highly valued practice of regular sermons offered by lay members.

The pastor should be one who is comfortable “comforting the afflicted and afflicting the comfortable.”