Application to Serve on the Governing Board

Applications for the Governing Board (GB) are due no later than September 30. Applications will be reviewed by the Nominations and Leadership Development Team and all applicants will be notified no later than October 28.

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Please note: Pages 1 and 2 of this application define the roles and expectations of GB members while Page 3 contains questions to answer as part of the application process. Page 4 contains some thoughts on what it means to be a servant-leader, one of the key characteristics of GB members.

- **Roles of GB members and description:**
  
The Governing Board of Bothell United Methodist Church is tasked to be the visioning body of the church, setting direction and overseeing the church’s governance. To accomplish these tasks, the Governing Board collectively serves as the Staff Parish Relations Committee, the Finance Committee and the Trustees, and takes on the responsibilities of each of these committees.

  The members of the Governing Board each serve in one of five areas, taking the lead in the preparation, the facilitation, and the implementation of plans and actions that fall under their respective area:
  
  - Chair of the Board
  - Lay Leader (Laity Representative)
  - Staff Parish Relations (Personnel)
  - Finance (Budget and Stewardship)
  - Trustee (Property and Legal)

- **Desired characteristics of GB members:**
  
  - Ability to successfully participate on collaborative teams (includes actively listening to others, respecting other perspectives, sharing one’s own thoughts in positive ways, and above all, prioritizing the team’s success over one’s individual goals).
  
  - Ability to vision and strategize as to where and what our church is being called to do.
- Ability to serve in a leadership capacity. The expectation is that GB members are able to demonstrate and live-out servant-leadership. *(See page 4 for a description of Servant-Leadership)*

- **Expectations of GB members:**
  GB members must be members of Bothell UMC and are expected to fulfill the same expectations as all church members: attend worship service regularly, participate regularly in service to the community and our church, continue to grow in faith through participation in a small group, and support the church financially by giving proportional to income.

  GB members are expected to participate at regular GB meetings throughout the year (approximately six to ten) as well as an occasional all or half day retreats. Beyond regular meetings, GB members can expect to spend additional time related to GB work (reading, research, etc.). GB members are also the liaison to ministry groups related to their work and are expected to attend selected Bothell UMC events and programs as a representative of GB.

  GB members must be able to maintain absolute confidentiality due to the sensitivity of some content discussed at GB meetings.

  GB members are expected to serve a total of three years, serving in the role of: incoming, current, and outgoing member for a specific position. *(This expectation facilitates the continuity of the GB.)*
Please answer the following questions as part of the application process. Take as much space as necessary to answer these. If you’d prefer to respond verbally instead of in writing, please contact Barb, our office administrator (425-486-7132), to set-up a time to talk with members of the Nominations and Leadership Development Team.

1. What keeps you coming to Bothell UMC?

2. Why do you want to serve on the Governing Board of Bothell UMC?

3. In what ways have you engaged at Bothell UMC (or previous churches) and in the community (locally and/or globally)?

4. How do your gifts, skills, experiences, and passions relate to the desired characteristics and roles of the GB members as defined on the previous page?

5. What GB roles, as defined on the previous page, would you be inclined towards and why?

6. Is there anything else you’d like to share about you or your interest in serving on the GB?
Servant-Leadership

Servant leaders typically have the following characteristics:

- **Listening**: The servant-leader seeks to identify the will of a group and helps to clarify that will. He or she listens receptively to what is being said and unsaid. Listening, coupled with periods of reflection, are essential to the growth and well-being of the servant-leader.

- **Stewardship**: Peter Block has defined stewardship as “holding something in trust for another.” Servant-leadership, like stewardship, assumes first and foremost a commitment to serving the needs of others. It also emphasizes the use of openness and persuasion, rather than control.

- **Commitment to the growth of people**: Servant-leaders are deeply committed to the growth of each and every individual within his or her organization. They also look to develop other leaders and encourage others.

- **Value diverse opinions**: The servant-leader not only values diversity but seeks it out and embraces it.

- **Empathy & Framer of Questions**: The servant-leader strives to understand and empathize with others. Servant-Leaders ask curious questions, seek to understand others through questions, seek to enlighten themselves and others through the discovery that questions bring.

- **Thinking of big picture**: Servant-leaders seek to nurture their abilities to dream great dreams. The ability to look at a problem or an organization from a big picture perspective means that one must think beyond day-to-day realities and think of the long term.

- **Acts with humility and cultivates trust**: Above all servant-leaders are humble; knowing exactly who they are, not interested in having their own way, but rather in finding the best way. As such they have an open mind and are trusted by others.