

Interim Senior Minister

The Rev. Doug Wadkins

The following focus on areas of ministry in line with the interim focus points of heritage, mission, connection, leadership, and future.

- Lead a Missional Identity Process with both the congregation and the staff that encouraged conversation regarding the priorities of the shared ministry in answer to the foundational questions of Who are we? Whom do we serve? What are we called to do now and in the next few years?
- Endeavored to get every staff member situated with a job description, an evaluation of all staff and with the assistance of church staff expert, Susan Beaumont, facilitated a review of the entire team to cover the major areas of ministry better. Also designed and worked with the staff and lay leaders to create a new coordinator position to assist pastoral care and social justice ministries.
- Completed a six-session, 48-hour seminar entitled Doing Our Own Work: A Seminar for Anti-Racist White People. It included work on four realms of racism: personal, interpersonal, institutional, and cultural, exploring the history of racism and racial justice in the US, uncovering the layers of white privilege, and shaping & sustaining an anti-racist identity. I found the experience very meaningful in re-thinking core components of my ministry!
- Supporting the ministerial search team as they worked very diligently and wisely to represent the congregation, I served as an in-house resource for crucial components of their work.
- Collaborated with the Worship Team to explore new approaches to theme-based ministry in the worship arena. Together we planned an entire season of theme worship and continued to innovate in how best to utilize themes both on Sunday and beyond, to bring deeper meaning and connection to the programming in the congregation.
- Engaged with the Pastoral Care Team, the Social Justice Council, the Leadership Development Team and Chalice Circles in offering a stronger connection between staff and key areas of programming. This work included providing several workshops to the congregation and small groups to explore the knowledge and skill-sets necessary to foster a caring community.