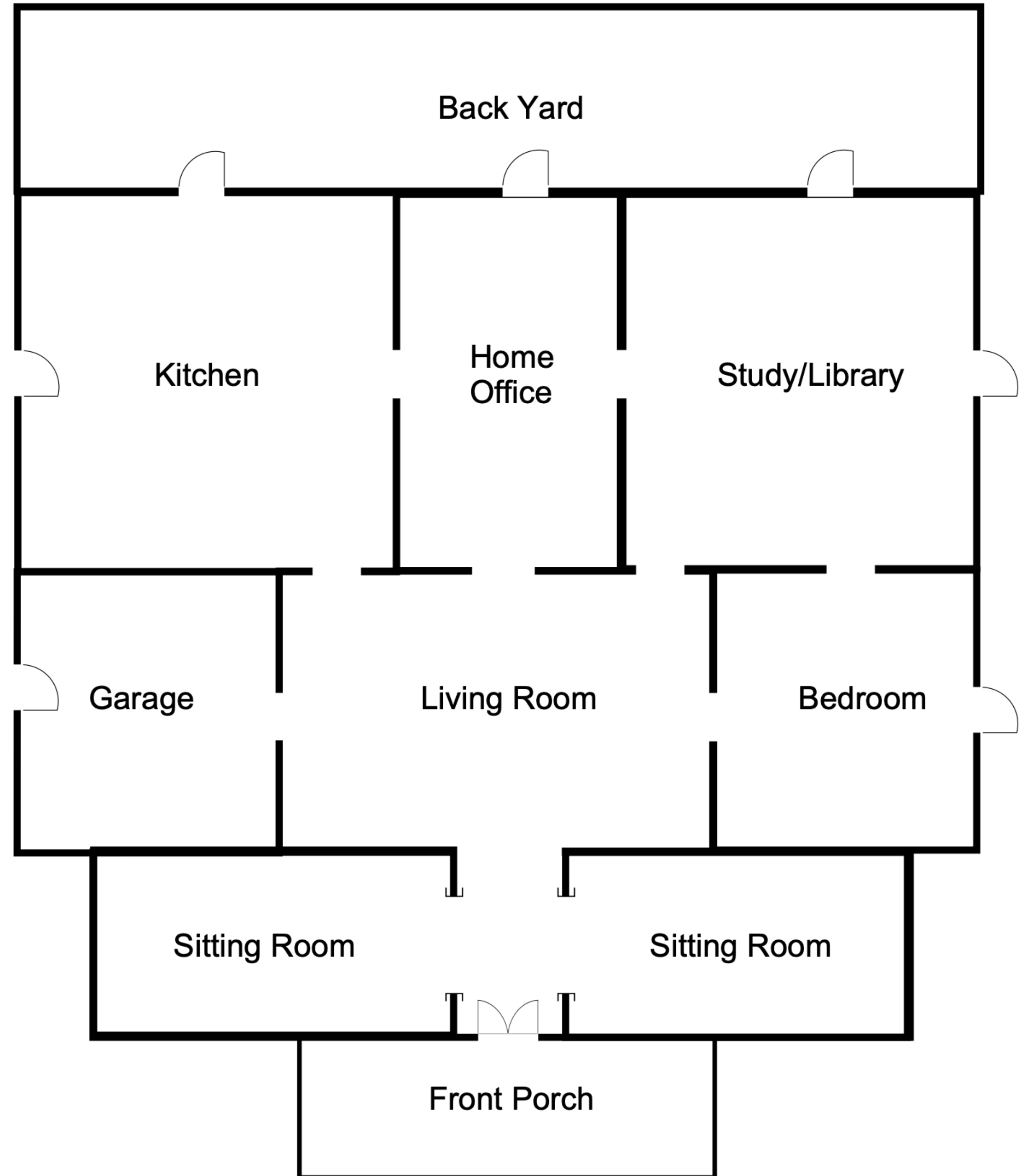


2025 Leadership Training

Spanish Fort United Methodist Church

The Church House

John Wesley described salvation as the doorway of a house. To take the metaphor one step further, the experience of belonging to a church is like moving through the entire house and discovering the purpose of each room. One distinct feature of this home is that although there is a front door designed for entrance, there are many ways a person can find their way inside.



Church Structure

- **Staff/Clergy**
- **Committees**
- **Congregation**



Church Staff

Ministry Titles		
Clergy	Pastor/Reverend	The ordained or licensed person who has been appointed by the bishop to be in charge of a local church or churches. The pastor in this formal sense is the official representative of the Annual Conference and is responsible for serving effectively in the ministry of "Word, Sacrament, and Order" in that appointment.
Lay	Minister	“The term which, in its broadest usage in United Methodism, applies to all persons who accept Christ as Savior who are baptized, and who participate in Christ's ministry of grace through outreach and service in the world. It is the United Methodist conviction that all persons in Christ are called to work for the building up of the church through worship, fellowship and service to the world.
Lay	Director	Non-ministerial, overseeing a department or area of organizational management. “The head of an organized group or administrative unit”
Lay	Assistant/Specialist	Support staff in various areas of ministry and administration.

Though these are often treated as synonyms, they have two different meanings.

- **Sr. Pastor - Woods Lisenby**
- **Associate Pastor - Sarah Roberts**
- **Associate Pastor - Mike Owenby**
- **Contemporary Worship Minister - Andy Cloninger**
- **Director of Finance and Operations - Elisha Dozier**
- **Children's Minister(s) - Elizabeth DeRocher**
- **Youth Minister - Sean Harnass**
- **Communications Asst./Asst. Youth Minister = Summerlyn Middleton**
- **Pastoral Executive Assistant - Margie Walters**
- **Preschool Director - Erin Tucker**
- **Accompanist - Brandon Marcus**

Spanish Fort Staff Structure

SPRC

Bishop

Board of Ordained Ministry

Woods

Mike

Brandon

Andy

Elizabeth

Scott

Sean

Elisha

Robbin

Erin

Preschool Board

Summerlyn

Sarah

Membership Care

Missions

Children Choir

Tech Vols

Acolytes

Altar Guild

Communion

Adult Choir

Worship Team

Handbell

Band

Children Parent Council

Nursery

4k-K

1st-3rd

3rd Grade Class

4th-6th

VBS

Family Camp

SS

Children's Church

SS

Youth Parent Council

Salt Team

Remedy

Sunday School

Catapult

SS

Small Groups

Finance

Trustees

Operations

Supper Clubs

Shelby

Meals/ Special Events

Executive Committee

Church Council

Nominations

SPRC

UMM

Adult Discipleship

Lent/Advent Devo

Spotlight

Church Council Brochure

Social Media

Church Wide Emails

Bereavement

Hospital Visitation Coordination

Prayer Chain

Support Groups

Confirmation

UMW

Homebound

Missions Committee

Evangelism Committee

New Member Class

Guests

Prayer Shawl

13 Total Staff

2 Full-Time Elders

1 Full-Time Deacon

5 Part-Time Ministers

1 Part-Time Asst. Minister

1 Full-Time Director

2 Admin Assistant

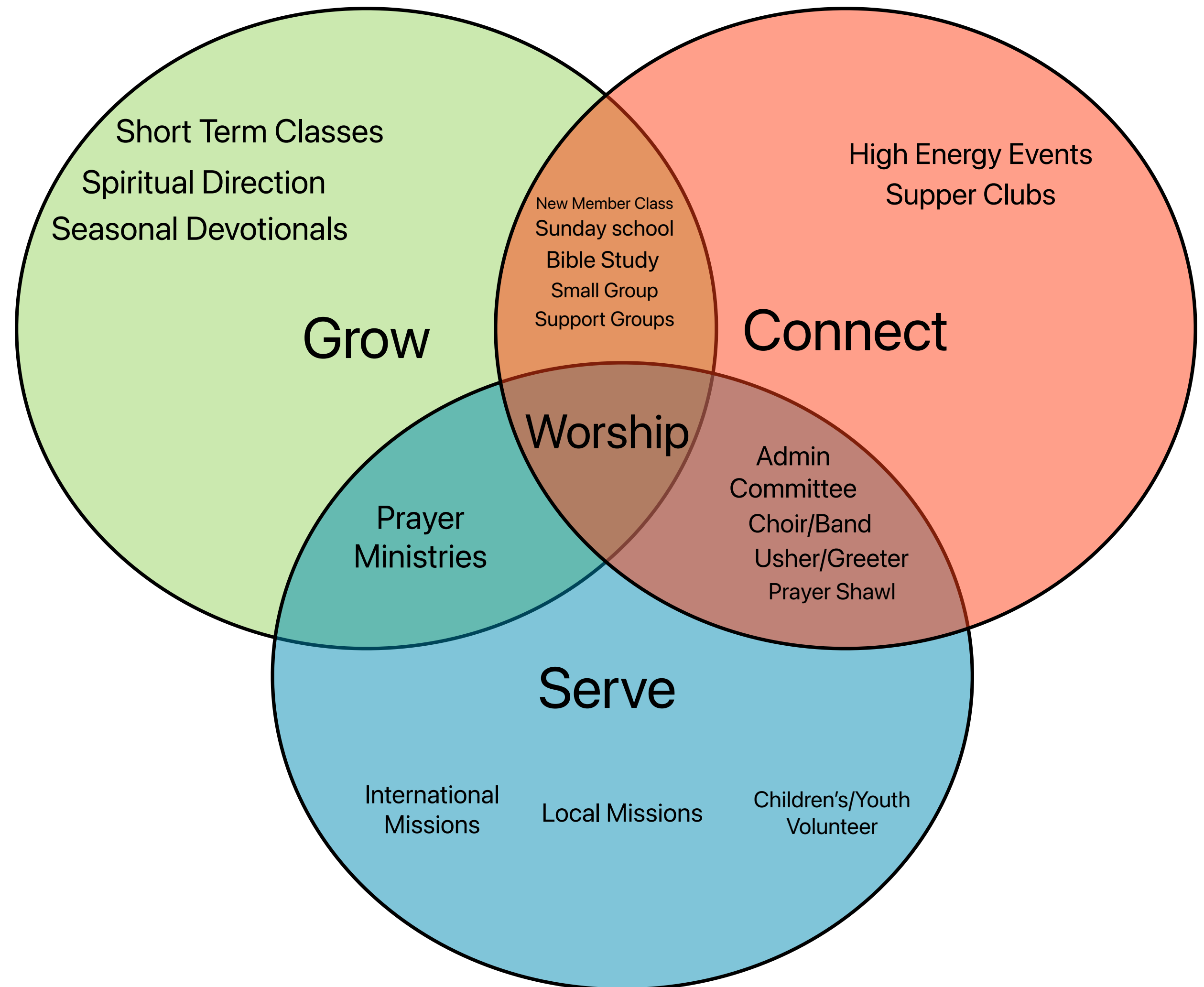
1 Part-Time Accompanist

Committees

- Ministry
 - Children's Leadership
 - Youth Leadership
 - Missions
 - Family Life
 - S.A.L.T
 - Worship

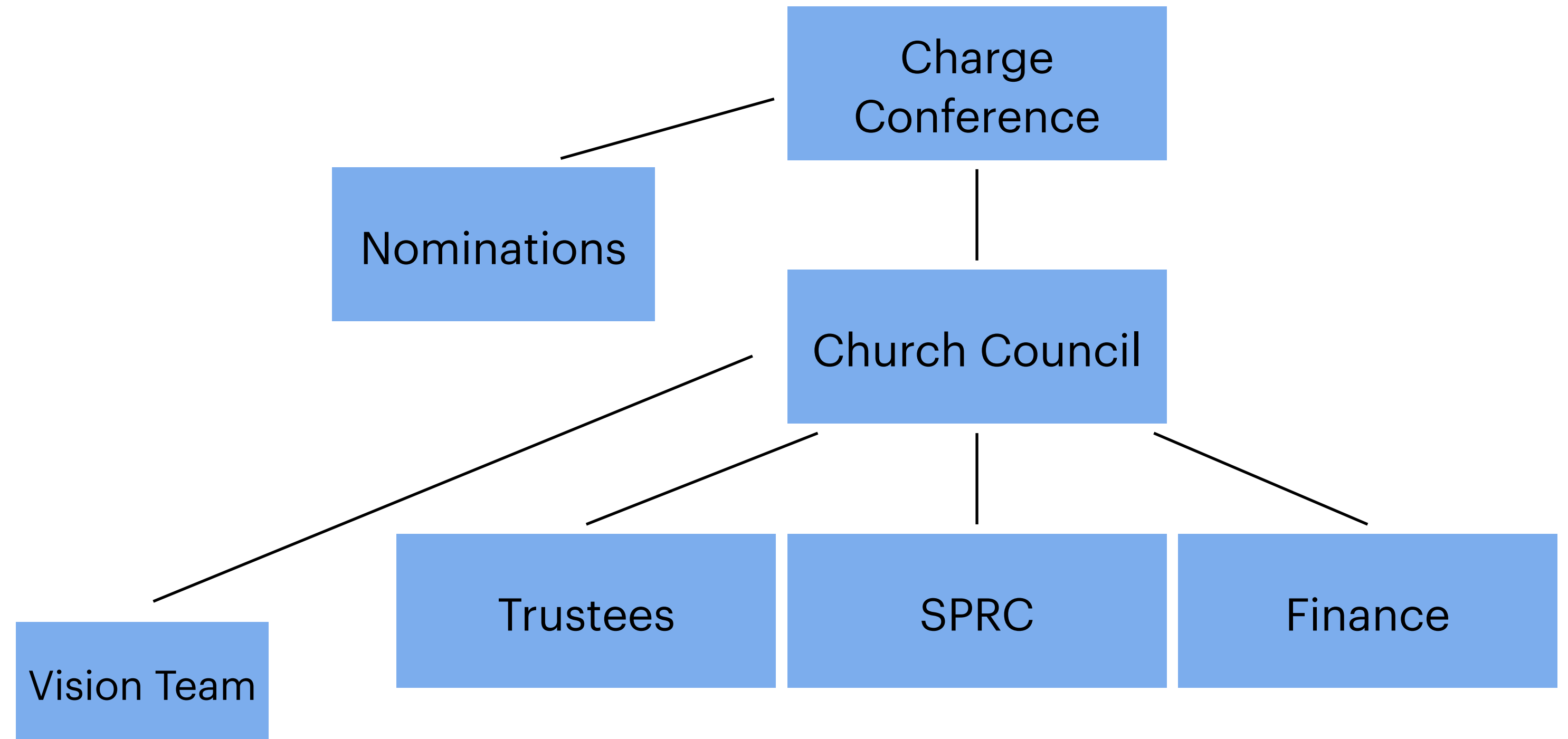
Program Ministries

Program ministries do not exist in a vacuum or in silos. Rather, the church offers programs that often serve multiple purposes. Program ministries are interconnected and aim to accomplish the mission of the church.



Committees

- Administrative
 - Charge Conference
 - Church Council
 - SPRC
 - Trustees
 - Finance
 - Nominations
 - Vision Team



Committees

- **Charge Conference - Led by District Superintendent**
- The charge conference is the basic governing body of each United Methodist local church and is composed of all members of the church council. All members of the charge conference must be members of the local church. The charge conference must meet at least once per year. The charge conference directs the work of the church and gives general oversight to the church council, reviews and evaluates the mission and ministry of the church, sets salaries for the pastor and staff, elects the members of the church council, and recommends candidates for ordained ministry.

Committees

- **Nominations - Chair: Senior Pastor**
- There shall be elected annually, by the charge conference in each local church, a committee on nominations and leadership development that is composed of professing members of the local church. The charge of this committee is to identify, develop, deploy, evaluate, and monitor Christian spiritual leadership for the local congregation. Members of the committee shall engage in and be attentive to developing and enhancing their own Christian spiritual life in light of the mission of the Church.

Committees

- Church Council - Chair: Lee Walters
- “The church council is the executive agency of the charge conference (§244.1). This means that between meetings of the charge conference, the church council is the group of leaders that guides and furthers the ministry of the congregation. The church council exists to create and supervise the strategic plan for an effective congregation. Decisions made by the council will shape the future and demonstrate for everyone how God’s kingdom comes in the immediate community.
- The work of the church council is to envision, plan, implement, and annually evaluate a congregation’s ministry and mission.”

Church Council Brochure



Committees

- **SPRC - Chair: Lynn Langley**
- The ministry entrusted to this committee is in its name: relations. In every size congregation, the Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations Committee (S/PPRC) must focus on building strong relationships between the staff and the congregation, and between the congregation and the district superintendent (DS). The SPRC is the administrative unit in the local church, where staff and congregation are integrated to focus on the mission of the church. The SPRC is the governing board in an advisory capacity...NOT to manage the staff.

Policies and Resources

Employee Handbook

Job Descriptions

Staff Evaluations

Team Feedback Form

Self Appraisal Form

Supervisor Evaluation Form

Employee Development Plan

Hiring and Dismissal Policies

Congregational Complaints

Liaison Policy

Committees

- Trustees - Chair: Janet English
- The trustees supervise and maintain all property belonging to the congregation so that the ministries of the congregation can be effective. They work closely with the church council to respond to God's call. They act as its agent in caring for the physical resources of the church and for all legal matters

Policies and Resources

Safe Sanctuary Policy

Safety Plan

Facility Use Agreement

Contracts and Agreements

Insurance

Designated Gift Management

Property Management

Policy for the acceptance or rejection of
bequests, gifts, or trusts.

Committees

- Finance - Chair: Blair Lober
- The committee on finance shall give stewardship of financial resources as their priority throughout the year. It may delegate the responsibility to either a sub-group or task force that would plan, strategize, and implement ways to generate more resources for mission and ministries of the local churches and beyond. It is strongly recommended that the committee on finance, in collaboration with the church council, find creative ways to turn their congregations into tithing congregations with an attitude of generosity.

Policies and Resources

Church Budget

Internal Financial Controls

- Collection
- Disbursements
- Maintenance

Audits

Bank Accounts

Stewardship

Meeting Schedule

TRUSTEES 5:30 PM	SPRC 5:30 PM	FINANCE 5:30 PM	CHURCH COUNCIL 5:30 PM	NOMINATIO NS
1/26/2025	1/26/2025	1/26/2025	1/26/2025	1/26/2025
2/10/2025	2/13/2025	2/17/2025	No Feb Meeting	
3/10/25	3/13/2025	3/17/2025	3/24/2025	
4/7/2025	4/10/2025	4/14/2025	No March Meeting	
5/12/2025	5/15/2025	5/19/2025	5/27/2025	
6/16/2025	No June Meeting	6/16/2025	No June Meeting	
7/14/2025	7/10/2025	7/21/2025	7/28/2025	
8/11/2025	8/14/2025	8/18/2025	No August Meeting	
9/8/2025	9/10/2025	9/15/2025	9/22/2025	9/21/2025
10/13/2025	10/9/2025	10/20/2025	No October Meeting	10/5/2025
11/10/2025	11/13/2025	11/17/2025	11/24/2025	
12/8/2025	12/11/2025	12/15/2025	No December Meeting	

Committees

- Vision Team
- At Spanish Fort United Methodist Church, we are embarking on a transformative journey to discern God's vision for our congregation and community. This visioning process, running from January through July 2025, is designed to provide clear and Spirit-led direction for our future ministry. Through prayer, strategic planning, and congregational involvement, we aim to articulate a vision that inspires and empowers us to make a greater impact for God's kingdom.
- Phase 1 - Preparation and Foundation
- Phase 2 - Listening and Data Gathering
- Phase 3 - Synthesize insights and develop core vision themes
- Phase 4 - Refine the vision
- Phase 5 - Strategy and action planning phase
- Phase 6 - Launch in Worship