

Congregational Doula/Pastor

Updated 9/10/23

In addition to scriptural references to *doulas* and *doulous* (Luke 1:38; Acts 2:18), in contemporary usage, a doula is a trained and experienced professional who provides physical, emotional, educational and practical support to a birthing mother and her family before, during, and for a time after childbirth.

We ask our congregational doula/pastor, to draw on her/his/their seminary and spiritual direction training, and work, life and congregational experience to tend details for worship, visioning, administration and nurture, as we continue to imagine what a gathered faith community looks like, in our time and place.

Open Table Mennonite Fellowship

.25 FTE Doula/Pastor Job Description (10 hours/week)

- **Worship Planning**
 - Schedule worship leaders (ask for volunteers, invite specific individuals, assign Sundays as needed)
 - Develop worship themes (invite planning groups for specific seasons, work with leadership group etc.)
 - Gather materials (written resources, visuals)
 - Mentor others; drawing out gifts/training (music, drama, biblical storytelling)
 - Plan and lead contemplative and/or liturgical season services at least quarterly and provide back-up in case of illness or emergency
- **Discernment**
 - Spend time on vision work, on what's emerging longer term
 - Work with leadership group to plan agenda for monthly discernment meetings
 - Meet monthly with leadership group (email or phone follow-up as needed)
- **Administrative**
 - Keep track of schedule, send out reminders
 - Update website
 - Coordinate ad-hoc task groups and provide back-up if needed
 - Purchase OTMF supplies as needed

- o Connect with Faith House committee
- o Maintain connections with broader church (local congregations, conference, denomination)
- o Find resources for small fellowships
- o Keep track of hours worked and present summary to the leadership group three times a year (April/August/December)
- Nurturing: Congregation
 - o Pastoral care contact person (communicate concerns to the network and coordinate follow-up care as needed)
 - o Help others discern their call, and assist with life-direction questions
 - o Develop and maintain Conference connection (Pastor-Peer group, annual sessions)
 - o Prayer or retreat time for focusing on attentive listening on behalf of the group
- Nurturing: Doula
 - o Develop and maintain relationships with peers for support
- OTMF Network
 - o Attentive listening and discernment regarding worship circles
 - o Share stories of what is working, challenging, hopeful, etc.

NOTE: The paid duties outlined here are in addition to the Doula's participation as a regular and active member/participant of OTMF