John 13:12-15

When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them.

“You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am.

Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

Report of the Leadership Development Committee
June 2017

The Leadership Development Committee of the Missouri Mid-South Conference is largely charged with: cultivating and nurturing Conference leadership; ensuring the Conference fulfills its covenantal leadership obligations, including with other church ministries: and promoting the Conference's relationship with the church's historically related Seminaries, etc.

In simple terms, this means our main responsibility is identifying leadership to serve our Conference or representing our conference. We do this by recognizing our needs and then working with the associations, local churches, and via the eCourier, to solicit and identify qualified leadership candidates for election to the Conference Council and as Synod delegates, and for other UCC related obligations. The committee considers many factors including individual professional expertise and experience which might be beneficial in fulfilling the legal and fiduciary duties, and accountability practices of the conference. The committee further pays particular attention to reflect upon the diversity and demographic base of our congregations and their membership.

The names of those proposed for election at the Conference Annual Gathering in June 2016 can be found in the minutes of that meeting.

Although, we are blessed with having a wide range of individuals willing to accept the call to leadership, identifying and cultivating those individuals is an ongoing mission of the committee and can be challenging. It could not be accomplished without the help of the full membership of the conference. We need you - always. Either to serve or to help those who have the leadership gifts we need to discern their call to service, we want you.

The Missouri Mid-South Conference Ambassador program offers another wonderful opportunity to serve our conference. Conference Ambassadors act as “connectors” within the body. They are fundamental in nurturing the relationships with and within the Conference, by creating a rapport between congregations and individuals (rather than congregation connections solely with Conference staff). Training and ongoing support is provided. Contact the conference office for more information.

It is important we each share in the work of the ministry of the Missouri Mid-South Conference.

**THIS IS OUR CHALLENGE TO YOU:**

Focus on your uniqueness. Consider your abilities and talents. What are your leadership strengths? Look for ways to get involved. We want you – we need you.

A shared ministry is a strong ministry! And a strong conference.

**Are YOU willing to accept the joy of serving?** Please feel free to contact any of us – or better yet – stop by our table at the Conference Annual Gathering!

Laura Dierberg Ayers, Chair
(LJD@Ayers@aol.com)

Mark Ferbet

Rev. Laura Mignerone

Rev. Alan Gatewood

Rev. Donna Smith - Pupillo

Elaine Hudson

Rev. David Mehl, Moderator