

# Called *to* Serve



Ministry Opportunities  
January–December 2010

Burke United Methodist Church

Burke United Methodist Church  
6200 Burke Centre Pkwy  
Burke, VA 22015

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# Introduction

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The Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations – Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-Taking Mission and Service, and Extravagant Generosity – provide a practical framework and a common language for the church’s mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. These practices also offer a path to developing our personal discipleship, and so our Called to Serve ministry is centered on this theme of growing in fruitfulness.

In this booklet, you will find brief descriptions of BUMC’s ministries of service. Each type of ministry is listed with the practice it most directly supports. More detailed lists are available on our website and at the church’s Welcome Center.

God calls and equips each of us for service in unique and personal ways. Discerning that call is not always easy or clear. If you are unsure about how you are best suited to serve, you might consider which of the five practices you find most appealing or important, and select a ministry that supports that practice. Ministry leaders and pastors can also offer guidance. You should feel free to experiment, trying a new ministry to see how it “fits.” When you have made your decision, please complete the commitment form, which you may turn in to the church office at any time.

Through our service, we grow in faith as individuals and we strengthen the body of Christ, becoming partners with God in the loving transformation of the world.

## Acknowledgement

Our descriptions of the Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations are drawn from the book by the same title, written by Robert Schnase, Bishop of the Missouri Conference of the United Methodist Church. Published in 2007 by Abingdon Press.

## Burke United Methodist Church

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*The Practice of*

# Radical Hospitality

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“Through the practice of Radical Hospitality, laity and pastors take the initiative to invite, welcome, include, and support newcomers and help them grow in faith as they become part of the Body of Christ... Members focus on those outside their congregation with as much passion as they attend to the nurture and growth of those who already belong to the family of faith, and they apply their utmost creativity, energy, and effectiveness to the task, exceeding all expectations... Hospitality practices the gracious love of Christ, respects the dignity of others, and expresses God’s invitation to others, not our own... The power of an invitation to change a person’s life must never be underestimated!”

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*You may support Radical Hospitality by serving in the following ministry or ministries:*

- **Concerns** – Encourage and support those in our church family who are experiencing illness, grief or other crisis by providing meals, transportation or caring expressions.
- **Evangelism** – Share the joy of our faith with the community through planning or hosting events, photography or publicity.
- **Communications** – Keep our church family and community up-to-date through our website or internal communications.

- **Fellowship** – Plan or host celebrations of community by sharing gifts of food, decoration or entertainment.
- **Grounds and Property** – Keep our church property safe and welcoming by mowing, gardening or building upkeep.
- **Office** – Assist our administrative staff by answering phones or helping with mailings.
- **Hospitality in Worship** – Extend the hand of friendship as a greeter, usher or welcome center staffer.



## Passionate Worship

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“Passionate Worship means an extraordinary eagerness to offer the best in worship, honoring God with excellence and with an unusual clarity about the purpose of connecting people to God.... God touches worshipers through music, story, prayer, and communion, and they experience belonging, support, and connection.... Worship also includes personal devotions, private prayer, meditation, and reading that people practice apart from the physical presence of others in the Body of Christ.... Churches with Passionate Worship draw people to God and to one another in Christ’s name, and they afford people the opportunity to be shaped by God.”

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*You may support Passionate Worship by serving in the following ministry or ministries:*

- **Music and Creative Arts** – Add to the richness of our worship experience through music, dance, art or drama.
- **Prayer** – Help us listen and respond to God through various means of corporate, small group and private prayer.
- **Worship Support** – Enhance our worship as a reader, acolyte, sound technician, power point presenter, or by caring for our altar or sanctuary.

## Intentional Faith Development

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“Intentional Faith Development describes the practice of churches that view the ministries of Christian education and formation, small group work, and Bible study as absolutely critical to their mission and that consistently offer opportunities for people of all ages, interests, and faith experiences to learn in community.... Learning in community gives disciples a network of support, encouragement, and direction as we seek to grow in Christ.... We are emboldened to new ways of thinking about God and new ways of exercising our faith in daily life.”

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*You may support Intentional Faith Development by serving in the following ministry or ministries:*

- **Adult Ministries** – Provide encouragement or leadership to our adults in their desire to learn more about living a faithful life, perhaps by planning study opportunities or leading a study.
- **Education** – Support or lead our children and youth as they develop an understanding of God that will guide them throughout their lives, through direct connections such as teaching or shepherding, by serving in the church library or through behind-the-scenes organizing or crafting.
- **Spiritual Formation** – Work with a ministry team to develop practices and resources for growing in personal and corporate Christian discipleship.

## *The Practice of*

# Risk-Taking Mission & Service

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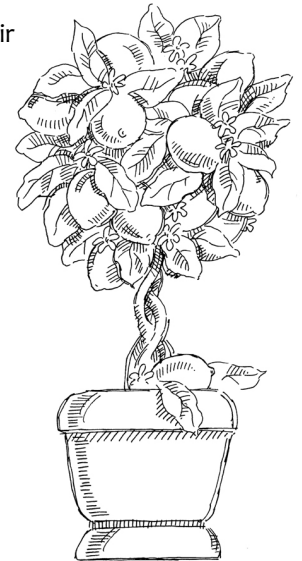
“Risk-Taking Mission and Service includes the projects, the efforts, and work people do to make a positive difference in the lives of others for the purposes of Christ.... A church without generous and willing service by its members can never practice Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, or Extravagant Generosity since these depend upon the leadership, time, effort, prayers, sweat, and tears of members.... Vibrant, fruitful growing congregations push beyond ordinary service and everyday missions to offer extraordinary opportunities for life-changing engagement with people.... God uses such ministries to expose church members to people, situations, and needs that they would never ordinarily encounter and that reveal to them spiritual qualities and practical talents that, apart from their deliberate intention of serving Christ, they would never discover... [They] realize the church also has a responsibility to bear witness to wider social change.... Risk-taking witness is a tool God uses to change lives, communities, and nations.”

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*You may support Risk-Taking Mission and Service by serving in the following ministry or ministries:*

- **Caring for the Earth** – Help us to be good stewards of God’s creation through gardening, recycling and energy conservation.

- **Age- and Gender-Focused Ministries** – Be a part of our United Methodist Men, women’s ministries, or youth, young adult or adult ministries, who serve in a variety of ways.
- **Caring for Others’ Physical, Emotional or Spiritual Health** – Offer substantive and caring support for others through Health and Wellness ministries, life transition support groups, or Stephen Ministries.
- **Missions** – Our missions opportunities are many and varied, with new ways to serve arising as new needs are identified. Consider:
  - Caring for those who are hungry, homeless or in crisis
  - Organizing collections of goods for those in need near and far
  - Serving on a Volunteers in Mission team or accompanying a youth mission team
  - Construction or home repair
  - Advocacy for social justice



# Extravagant Generosity

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“Churches that practice Extravagant Generosity... speak confidently and faithfully about money, giving, generosity, and the difference giving makes for the purposes of Christ and in the life of the giver.... They provide a compelling vision that invites people to give joyously, thereby finding purpose, meaning, and satisfaction in changing lives.... [They] take seriously the stewardship of the resources entrusted to them by their members. They take extraordinary precautions to protect the integrity of their financial systems.... The practice of Extravagant Generosity is the fruit of maturation in Christ, the result of God’s sanctifying grace that molds our hearts and changes our values and behaviors, helping the church fulfill its mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ in robust and fruitful ways.”

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*You may support Extravagant Generosity by serving in the following ministry or ministries:*

- **Encourage Giving** – Help us develop fresh and meaningful ways to engage our members in the giving of their time, service and financial resources.
- **Financial Management** – Care for the church’s financial health as a weekend counter or finance committee member.



# Called to Serve Commitment 2010

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Complete this page and keep it as a reminder of your commitment to serve God through Burke United Methodist Church.

*I wish to support BurkeUMC’s practice of:*

**Radical Hospitality**

I am specifically interested in supporting this practice by

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**Passionate Worship**

I am specifically interested in supporting this practice by

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**Intentional Faith Development**

I am specifically interested in supporting this practice by

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**Risk-Taking Mission and Service**

I am specifically interested in supporting this practice by

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**Extravagant Generosity**

I am specifically interested in supporting this practice by

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If you would like to consider a more detailed list of ministries, please visit our website, [www.burkeumc.org](http://www.burkeumc.org). Printed copies of the Ministry List Supplement are also available at the church’s Welcome Center. If you have questions about a ministry or serving in the church, please contact the church office. Thank you for responding to God’s call to serve.