



## PRES HOUSE COUNCIL 2021-2022

February 2021

**Pres House Mission:** Pres House seeks to be a spiritual home at the heart of the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus. In keeping with the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Christian tradition of hospitality, Pres House is dedicated to providing a religious center and purposeful housing to support the spiritual, emotional, and intellectual growth of residents and members of the UW-Madison campus community. Pres House is a ministry of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. and welcomes individuals of every perspective and background.

*Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind;  
and love your neighbor as yourself."*

Pres House Council provides a year-long opportunity for members to grow in their leadership skills through serving the Pres House Church community. UW-Madison students also have the option of earning the [Leadership Certificate](#) through the Center for Leadership and Involvement at UW-Madison if they choose (see pages 3-4). Council members focus on leadership development in these three ways\*:

1. Love God
2. Love neighbor
3. Serve others

Pres House Council invites you to go deeper with God, neighbor, and service. Through the regular sharing of our lives with one another—our passions, our questions, our joys, our wounds, our challenges—we inspire our community to bear witness to the radical grace of Christ not only at Pres House, but in all the spaces of our lives.

### **Important 2021 Dates ~ Mark your calendars!**

March 26<sup>th</sup> – Council Applications Due (notification by April 2<sup>nd</sup>)

May 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> – Council Retreat (tentative in-person gathering during the day, no overnight together; may be virtual depending on COVID rates)

September 3<sup>rd</sup> – Council Meeting to prepare for Fall Welcome & Outreach

Monthly Council meetings on **Sundays, 1:00-3:00 PM**: Exact dates TBA; we meet 1x/month during the academic year.

*\* For detailed information, see page 2*

## Council Member Commitments

Being a part of the Pres House Council is a significant and meaningful commitment which will grow you and the community. Council members commit to three, specific ways of leading:

### 1. **Love God ~ Worship and Reflection**

While “going to church” by itself is not an indication of one’s relationship with God, to be a leader in the Pres House community, we ask you to commit to weekly Sunday Worship as one of your spiritual practices. Members also read at least two books from the suggested list to reflect upon and deepen their faith understanding.

### 2. **Love neighbor ~ Weekly Community**

Loving your neighbor requires a regular rhythm of spending time together. By sharing daily life, conditions are created for organic things to sprout up—for people’s stories to be heard, passions enacted, response to the challenges around us met, for the grace and love of Christ to unfold. Council members commit to weekly, intentional relationship with others in the community.

How this looks can vary. Small groups and worship band already meet weekly which everyone is welcome to join; or you can start something new that matches your interests—an intramural sports team, knitting group, study group, weekly meal, weekly rock climbing, etc. The intent is that you are in regular relationship with people in the Pres House community (Sunday plus one more day during the week).

### 3. **Serve others ~ Servant Leadership**

Council members commit to serving and leading the community in three specific ways:

#### 1. Council Meetings

Monthly meetings focus on leadership development, collaborative planning, and deciding upon programming for the church community

#### 2. Outreach and Hospitality

- i. Fall and Spring outreach events
- ii. Sunday hosting and leadership (2x/semester)
- iii. Finals Lounge hosting (1-2 shifts)

#### 3. Leadership Activity

These are just a few examples; you are encouraged to be creative & collaborate:

1. Providing weekly A/V support for Sunday Worship
2. Organizing a service event (i.e., Grace Food Pantry, Senior Center, etc.)
3. Leading a weekly small group (i.e., Queerly Beloved, Knitting Together, etc.)
4. Serving on the Council Leadership Team or Board of Directors
5. Organizing an event with a partner organization (i.e., Gender & Sexuality Center, Multicultural Student Center, University Health Services, etc.)
6. Coordinating special events (i.e., Christmas Party, Race & Faith, etc.)

***“Community cannot feed for long on itself;  
it can only flourish where always the boundaries are giving way to the coming of others  
from beyond them – unknown and undiscovered brothers.” ~ Howard Thurman***



## Center for Leadership & Involvement

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## Leadership Certificate Program UW-Madison

Council Members can earn the Leadership Certificate through the Center for Leadership and Involvement at UW-Madison. This is an optional program with additional commitments. Students can serve on the Pres House Council without pursuing the Leadership Certificate.

### **Purpose**

The Leadership Certificate and Council Leadership program at Pres House provides an opportunity for students to develop essential skills in leadership through critical engagement and reflection, using the [UW-Madison Leadership Framework](#). Pres House seeks to cultivate thoughtful Christian leaders who will be equipped to “Love God, Love Neighbor, and Serve Others” in context appropriate ways that adds to the collective good of their communities. By being part of the Leadership Certificate cohort, students engage the values and competencies of the Leadership Framework to deepen their leadership understanding and abilities.

### **Eligibility**

All undergraduate, graduate and professional students currently enrolled at UW-Madison in good academic standing who are accepted to the Council Leadership at Pres House.

### **Steps to Enroll**

1. Apply to Council Leadership
2. Attend Leadership Certificate information session
3. Work through three requirement areas (minimum time commitment is one year; ideally two years to obtain maximum benefit of the program)

### **Requirement Areas**

#### **100 Hours of Involvement in the following:**

- Organizational/Group Leadership (30 hours minimum)  
Examples are serving on the Council Leadership Team, leading a weekly group, leading in Sunday Worship, planning and executing events, etc.
- Civic Engagement (30 hours minimum)  
Examples include volunteering at Grace Food Pantry, going on a Break With A Purpose trip, youth ministry with partner church, English conversation partners at Christ Pres., etc.
- Trainings & Workshops (10 hours minimum)  
Examples include Council Retreat, Council meetings, seminars offered by partner organizations, workshops offered on UW-Madison campus, etc.

## **Educational Requirements:**

- Pre-approved Academic Course  
One course with a focus on either Leadership or Global & Cultural Competence, for credit, grade of B or better
- Online Learning Modules  
Websites are listed on Leadership Certificate page with instructions on how to complete modules

## **Reflection Requirements:**

- 3 Reflection Meetings with Mentor  
Using the [UW-Madison Leadership Framework](#), students meet with a mentor to reflect upon experiences, competencies, and learning. Meetings occur at the beginning, midpoint, and conclusion of the process. Mentor partners include Pres House Staff, leaders from partner organizations, etc.
- 2 Cohort Meetings  
All Council members who are pursuing the Leadership Certificate will gather once a semester to learn from one another.
- Competency Reflection Essay  
Focuses on competencies of the UW-Madison Leadership Framework and draws upon experiences gained through Involvement and Educational requirements
- Leadership for Change Capstone  
Essay or Presentation that synthesizes leadership experiences and creates a plan for continuous learning.

## **Completion of Certificate**

### **Submission**

There are two times a year that a student can submit their materials for review and approval by the Center for Leadership and Involvement (once a semester). Deadlines are posted annually.

### **Ceremony**

Once a student has successfully completed all requirements, there is a ceremony hosted by the Center for Leadership and Involvement to present the certificates.

### **Graduation**

Successful completion of the Leadership Certificate earns a special cord that can be worn to during one's graduation ceremony.



LEADERSHIP  
CERTIFICATE



7.

## PRES HOUSE COUNCIL APPLICATION

Thank you for considering service on the Pres House Council! Please help us get to know you by filling out this application; contact Pastor Erica Liu if you have any questions. Your responses to this form will be made available to other members of the Pres House Council and the staff at Pres House.

**Application due March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Date \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address \_\_\_\_\_

### PERSONAL BACKGROUND

On a separate piece of paper, briefly respond to the following questions (limit your answers to one page typed):

- A. Please describe yourself in 100 words or less (i.e. line of work/study, family, hobbies, interests, etc).
- B. Please share about your faith journey.
- C. Please describe the interests, skills and experience you bring to the Pres House Council (i.e. work experience, previous leadership experience, specific skills and passions, etc.).
- D. Please describe your involvement in the Pres House community.
- E. What is an area of leadership you would like to grow in? (consider the competencies listed in the [UW-Madison Leadership Framework](#) for possible ideas)
- F. Is there anything that you would like to include or ask that we have not given you the opportunity to express? (Optional)

#### **Leadership Certificate**

I am interested in earning the Leadership Certificate through the Center for Leadership and Involvement at UW-Madison.

#### **Council Leadership Team**

Three Council members are elected to serve on the leadership team. This team is responsible for leading, helping, guiding, and focusing the Council as whole. They will facilitate the Council meetings, establish and maintain communication with individual Council members coach the Council body, and hold members accountable to the Council covenant. If you are interested, check this box.

#### **Pres House Board of Directors**

Five Council members are also elected to serve one year terms on the Board with other Madison community members. Being on the Board is a privilege and carries with it more responsibilities and expectations. If you are interested, please check this box and we will follow up with you to give you additional information.

## Pres House Council Covenant

As a member of the Pres House 2021-2022 Council, I commit to:

1. Participating in the Pres House Council Retreat on May 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
2. Making weekly Sunday Worship at Pres House a spiritual practice.\*
3. Intentional, weekly relationships with others at Pres House.\*
4. Fully engaging in monthly Council meetings.
5. Helping with outreach efforts in the Fall and Spring.
6. Supporting hospitality needs on Sundays and during Finals.
7. Serving the wider community in at least one, particular way.

*\* We don't want you to think of coming to Sunday Worship and weekly gatherings as attendance at a class; rather, it is more like a treasured family gathering in which you are an important member. Please prioritize these gatherings in your schedule. We understand that life happens—exams get scheduled, situations come up, trips out of town are taken—and that there are times people will not be able to be physically present on a given week. When those times arise, we ask that you let the Leadership Team know that you will not be there.*

As a person committed to growing in spiritual leadership with others at Pres House, I will:

1. Seek to grow in my understanding of what it means to follow Jesus. I will strive to seek after God in how I live my life and embrace being challenged and also challenge others.
2. Stay in relationship with the community, especially in challenging times. Rather than withdrawing or disengaging, I will be honest and proactive in my communication; I will stay at the table.
3. Be a team player working in collaborative partnership with others. I will both seek and give support.
4. Keep short accounts, as well as keep confidentiality and trust within the group. As the Council works towards consensus, I will be honest in my thoughts and communication, open to other people's input, and support a decision once it has been made.

In all these things, I will approach my fellow Council members with humility and grace.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**REFERENCES**

Please list two people, other than relatives, who would be willing to be contacted by the Pres House leadership about your background, gifts and interest in Pres House. *We may or may not choose to contact one or both of your references.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this application to:  
Rev. Erica Liu  
Pres House  
731 State St.  
Madison, WI 53703



Or email as an attachment to:  
[erica@preshouse.org](mailto:erica@preshouse.org)