

---

*Windham Association of the  
Connecticut Conference of the  
United Church of Christ*

*Periodic Support Consultation Plan*

---

*Periodic Support Consultations to be conducted every two years*

*Adopted May 13, 2009*

## **Purpose**

---

To “encourage personal and professional development among clergy” in the Windham Association by providing a specific occasion for “reflection and feedback on the practice of ministry.” (from the UCC Manual on Ministry, Oversight section, page 19)

## **Objectives**

---

- To affirm the successes and joys in one’s ministries.
- To offer an opportunity to learn about oneself in the supportive atmosphere of reflective listening and sharing.
- To support one’s call and ministry, both alone and within the context of the body of Christ.

## **Plan of Action**

---

All active authorized ministers are asked to arrange a small group gathering for Periodic Support Consultations, applying the following method:

1. Contact three colleagues with ministerial standing in either the United Church of Christ, and or from any other denomination.
2. Arrange at least a two-hour time of mutual sharing at a time and place convenient to all.
3. Suggested Discussion Questions – Please see Page 2
4. Ask one person to be a *recorder, being responsible to take notes*. The notes should be copied for all the participants, along with any additional recommendations or comments to the minister for whom the consultation was being held. All comments are for personal reference only and are to be kept confidential.

## **Follow-up**

---

All authorized ministers will report the Date, Place, and Participants of the Periodic Support Consultation **by November 30 of even years.**

Reporting will be done via e-mail to the Registrar at **windham.association@gmail.com**

**Questions** regarding this process may be directed to the Moderator of the Association.

## **Suggested Periodic Support Discussion Questions**

---

What has been the most interesting development in your ministry this past year?

What has been the most frustrating part of your ministry?

What excites you about your current ministry? Why?

What concerns you about your current ministry? Why?

How are you caring for yourself? How do you play?

How many hours are you working a week? How do you nurture your spirit?

Have you received any awards or distinctions recently? How would you like the association to know about them?

Have there been any significant changes in your personal or professional life?

Are there any significant life or professional passages?

Are there ways in which you feel isolated in your ministry?