

UPC MINISTRY TEAM GUIDELINES – Social Witness

The purpose of the **Social Witness Committee** is to be a theological conscience for our life together as disciples of Jesus Christ at UPC.

The Social Witness Team primarily expresses UPC's identity as a:

Congregation Connecting to Campus and Community

The Social Witness Team is responsible for:

- Creating or curating four types of documents for issues of social concern:
 - A policy statement- establishes the fundamental principles that guide our social witness. These statements will help fuel conversations and actions of other committees.
 - A resolution- changes an original policy statement
 - A study paper- encourages study by the congregation on a specific issue, which will lead into opportunities for discussion hosted by this committee.
 - A social involvement report- evaluates how the congregation is involved with any specific social issue based upon our original policy statement
- Hosting listening sessions with the people of the congregation before and after a policy statement is written as well as harkening the following voices:
 - the Bible
 - theological discourse
 - Reformed confessions
 - sociopolitical conversation
 - past policy statements
 - governing body advice
 - people who are marginalized
 - and ecumenical partners

While there are no standing sub-teams or task forces of the Social Witness Team, such groups may be appointment as needs for particular needs such as:

- Working more in-depth on a specific issue