

Vitality in Ministry Coordinator: The Rev. Emily Accord Haddox



During its May 14, 2026 meeting, the Leadership Council unanimously approved a position description for a Vitality in Ministry Coordinator (VIM). This is a 10-15-hour a month contract position that will be supported for up to three years using funds from the sale of church buildings. The VIM coordinator will build on the presbytery's focus of tending to the quality of our relationships.

The VIM Coordinator's role in the Presbytery of the Miami Valley is to help deepen relationships among clergy, those in congregational leadership, and among congregations. This will be done through the coordination of 4-6 events/activities per calendar year that contribute to vitality through 1) building relationships of trust, understanding, and encouragement; 2) building systems that are honest, resilient, and healthy; and 3) cultivating faithful and fruitful ministries by supporting and encouraging connectivity between clergy and their congregations. The Rev. Emily Haddox is serving as the VIM coordinator for the presbytery.

Emily has been involved with the Presbytery of the Miami Valley since 2012. She came through the CPM finishing up some Candidacy requirements and pulpit supplied around the Presbytery and served on committees and taskforces of the Presbytery until being called to Bath Presbyterian Church, Dayton, in the Summer of 2015. She was ordained at Bath in October 2015 as part-time Stated Supply Pastor. She had served on the CPM for six years before agreeing to come back on the committee in 2023 to serve as Chair. Along with serving as Bath's pastor, Emily has also worked for the past 20 years as a Marriage and Family Therapist.

While in seminary at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Emily obtained an MDIV as well as a Masters of Marriage and Family Therapy, through a dual degree program. Now, she is very enthusiastic about having the opportunity to attempt to integrate these professions into one Call.

Of this position Emily said, "As the Coordinator for Ministry Vitality within the Presbytery of the Miami Valley, it is my intention to network, resource and support all the clergy and leadership already doing all this wonderfully hard work to not only survive; but to learn together to train our eyes toward the Holy Spirit's movement within, among and through our congregations. That we begin (or maybe continue) to really get to know one another on personal, human levels and not just as our titles and our positions. May we name our fears together, learn our strengths together and move *en masse* beyond our buildings and out into our world to share Christ by being the Body authentically together. The intention is to work as a Presbytery, to be more connectional, vital and relevant to the communities we find ourselves planted. Together, how do we trust and rely on one another to amplify our actions as we follow Christ into the world? We have strengths because we are systemically connected, but giving that life and breath is sometimes a challenge. The hope is that we may fully lean into one another as clergy/CRE/RE support - to bond over our shared struggles and brokenness and fatigue as well as our attempts and sense of Call and witness to the Spirit's movement in our midst. The amazing experiences I have already had in this position reaffirm for me that PMV is an awesome Presbytery to be a member of! Everyone I have reached out to has been willing and excited to engage in conversations around how to revitalize our Presbytery. Everyone has been willing to share their experiences, gifts and resources. Everyone has asked how they can best support this new endeavor. Feeling connected, cared for and encouraged are contagious!

Some of the plans for upcoming events are a September story-telling workshop following the Wilmington Presbytery meeting, another clergy gathering in October (Piqua gathering 4/30/26 was super fun!!), a full day retreat and workshops in late October at Troy; and more events will continue to be added as momentum grows, stay tuned! I am so grateful for this new challenge and opportunity!"