

## How First Pres Is Organized

*FPCLY is part of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Presbytery of the Peaks. This means we are a connectional church: we govern ourselves locally while remaining accountable to and supported by the wider church.*

### Presbytery

The **Presbytery of the Peaks** provides oversight, guidance, and support to our congregation. It helps ensure healthy leadership, faithful ministry, and shared standards among churches. Our church participates in presbytery life and follows its policies.

### Session

**Session** is the elected governing body of the church. It is responsible for the overall spiritual and organizational health of the congregation. Session:

- Sets vision and direction
- Approves policies, procedures, and budgets
- Oversees staff, committees, and ministries
- Ensures accountability and faithful stewardship

### Staff

**Staff members** carry out the daily work of the church. They:

- Lead and coordinate ministry programs
- Support volunteers and committees
- Manage administration and communication
- Implement the vision and policies set by Session

### Committees and Initiatives

Many ministries are led through **committees and initiatives**. These groups:

- Are primarily volunteer-led
- Focus on specific areas or projects
- May be ongoing or time-limited
- Work in partnership with staff
- Report to Session (directly or through staff leadership)

Examples include worship planning, education programs, finance development, congregational engagement, and special events.

### Ministry Areas

The work of the church is organized into several broad and interconnected ministry areas:

- **Worship** – Services, music, sacraments, weddings, funerals
- **Education** – Children, youth, curriculum, faith formation
- **Outreach & Care** – Mission, service, community engagement, pastoral care
- **Resources** – Finance, facilities, personnel, administration

### Volunteers

Volunteers are the heart of the church's ministry. With guidance from staff and oversight from Session, volunteers lead, serve, teach, care, and help carry out the mission of the church.

### In Summary

- **Presbytery** provides connection and oversight
- **Session** governs and sets direction
- **Staff** lead daily ministry and operations
- **Committees and volunteers** carry out much of the ministry
- **Resources** support all areas of church life

*Together, we work to serve God and our community faithfully.*