



# CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## CPC August 2023 Ministry Discernment Form Supplemental Document

### **Church Mission/Vision Statement (1500 character limit which includes punctuations and spaces):**

#### **CPC Vision, Values and Areas of Call**

##### **Vision**

Christ Presbyterian Church envisions a world that is loving and inclusive. We unite with God to be a worshipping community without barriers, a sanctuary for all. We seek to follow Jesus by doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with God.

##### **Values**

**LOVE:** We seek to extend God's love and grace as we nurture deep friendships with one another across generations, races, genders, loves and abilities.

**DOUBT + FAITH:** We humbly approach the mysteries of faith and complexities of life through continual learning. We encourage questions and curiosity.

**BELOVED COMMUNITY:** We honor one another as a community where diversity of thought, worship, and experience is respected; silence and sharing hold equal values; and there is safety in vulnerability.

**SPIRITUAL HEALTH:** Listening to the Spirit, we study scripture, worship, pray, and discern, for our individual and mutual spiritual growth and the transformation of the world.

**REPAIR AND RENEWAL:** Following Jesus, we seek to be people who give of our time, talent and resources to build a more just world in our local and global communities.

**CARE OF CREATION:** Following God's call to care for the earth, we take measures to live sustainably and pursue systemic change to bring healing to the planet.

##### **Areas of Call**

- Worship
- Diverse and Inclusive Culture
- Christian Witness
- Children and Youth
- Spiritual Nurture and Development
- Creative Arts
- Care of Creation



# CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Tasks, expectations, duties, supervision, assignments, and responsibilities for the position (1500 character limit which includes punctuations and spaces):**

The Associate Pastor will be:

A pastoral leader for the CPC congregation, staff, and community. They will see, engage, and embrace people for who they are, and extend the love and peace of Jesus to people from the whole, diverse range of human experience (age, gender expression, sexual orientation, race and ethnicity, abilities, etc.). They will rejoice with people who celebrate, comfort people who mourn, and accompany people in their journeys of life and faith.

A prayerful, thoughtful, generous, and creative worship leader. They will preach often, preside at weddings and funerals, and bring their authentic self to CPC's diverse range of worship styles.

A teacher who equips others to teach and facilitate from their own gifts and calls. They will support Adult Christian Formation, encouraging seeking and questioning, inviting people into ongoing transformation.

A connector, getting to know people deeply, helping them develop meaningful relationships. They will support and help expand the work of the Connections Commission.

A champion, advocate, and servant leader in mission and outreach as staff lead for Christian Witness. They will encourage the congregation's growth in anti-racism work, the care and celebration of LGBTQIA+ persons, and the care of creation.

A supervisor to the Directors of Children, Youth, and GatherX ministries.

A learner, engaging in continuing education and personal spiritual development. This includes coaching/supervision by our Lead Pastor/Head of Staff.

*MDP Narratives. Please fill out the following narrative questions about your congregation (1500 character limit per question, including punctuations and spaces):*

**How would you describe the congregation's/organization's specific vision for ministry? How will this vision impact the community? Is the congregation part of a ministry vision or program?**

We are a community centered in Christ, welcoming all God's beloved children to continue their spiritual journey with us. We hail from a wide variety of backgrounds, experiences, and denominations. Some of us are lifelong Christians, some new to faith, some exploring; all are greeted with an open heart. We are intentionally inviting and inclusive, seeking honest, caring relationships that comfort, accept, encourage,



# CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

and challenge. We, together, learn how to put God's love and grace into action with humble, human hands.

Our worship is meaningful, rooted in the narrative of God's grace and salvation, and relevantly connected to our daily lives. We enjoy intergenerational contemporary and traditional services with inspiring music, engaging preaching, and rich visual arts.

Christian formation is woven into the fabric of the church. We are a place where people of all ages can gather to learn and grow in faith. We pursue deeper relationships with God through spiritual disciplines including prayer, meditation, service, and study. We seek to understand current issues and how God might be calling us to reexamine our assumptions and live more fully as faithful disciples.

We pursue partnerships in Madison and around the globe where we can be the heart and hands and feet of Jesus. We focus our mission engagement on the international community in Madison and abroad, the surrounding neighborhood and city, and on specific underserved communities to build a more just and equitable world.

## **What is the nature and context of the community in which your congregation lives out its mission/vision? How will you address the emerging needs that are impacting your community?**

CPC puts God's love into action here and now. We share a remarkable heritage of thoughtful, forward-thinking self-reflection and a roll-up-your-sleeves attitude to doing God's work. We are continually co-creating with God a more just world for all.

Our context is Madison, a rapidly growing city that is home to the State Capitol and University of Wisconsin. Our community experiences significant racial and economic disparities. Young professionals fill brand new apartment buildings while people without work beg at intersections. We seek to follow Jesus by doing justice in our city and beyond, spreading mercy, healing, and love however we can.

This takes many forms. We advocate for justice through education, relationships, financial support, and activism (Racial Justice Team, Refuge, Community Immigration Law Center, Refugee Resettlement). We build community with our Madison neighbors by offering mutual aid (Luke House, Madison Community Fridge, OwnIt, Mendota Elementary School). We provide spaces for meaningful connection with internationals (Madison International Partners) and young adults (GatherX). We nurture relationships with friends overseas at Fairhaven School in Alexandria, Egypt and Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, Palestine. We yearn to be part of the solution to catastrophic climate change (Creation Care).

All God's Children are welcome, accepted and celebrated at CPC, a loving sanctuary with no barriers to gender expression or sexual orientation.

## **How will this call help complement the responsibilities of other staff/volunteer positions, and the life of the congregation/organization, so that you may accomplish your short and long-term goals for ministry?**



# CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## **Christian Formation**

Serve as staff lead to Adult Christian Formation, supporting, nurturing and developing lay leaders, helping develop spiritual formation opportunities for both members and visitors.

Identify, equip, and support members of the congregation to teach, facilitate, write, and speak across the breadth of CPC's spiritual formation opportunities.

Coordinate intergenerational learning opportunities in partnership with Family Ministry and Young Adult staff members.

## **Connections**

Serve as staff lead to Connections, a CPC-created commission bringing congregation visitors and members from welcomed guests to community members involved in ministries of fellowship and community service .

Help Connections invite every CPC member and visitor into friendship and ministry in the church. Help equip others to also serve as inviters and connectors.

## **Christian Witness**

Serve as staff lead for the Christian Witness ministry, equipping elders and congregational leaders to learn and serve with partner organizations.

Focus and deepen, in partnership with the Christian Witness Commission, the congregation's learning, service, and advocacy.

Support the wide range of congregational leaders who champion and undergird justice, service, and community development initiatives.

In alignment with CPC's emerging vision and values, offer particular support and leadership for Creation Care initiatives.

## **Supervisor**

Serve as supervisor to Family Ministries staff members including the Directors of Children and Youth ministries, and the GatherX Director (Young Adult ministry).

## **Provide a description of the skills, gifts and training the person you hope will become a part of your ministry must have, to lead the congregation towards the vision and mission established.**

We seek an associate pastor who is inclusive and makes people feel safe, heard, and loved regardless of race, identity, gender, or experience. A candidate will possess a keen understanding of how one's cultural identity, gender, sexual orientation, background, and experiences influence values, beliefs, and behaviors as well as their/her/his biases that impact interactions with others. The candidate will have attributes,



# CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

knowledge, and skills to listen deeply, demonstrate empathy, and engage effectively with diverse audiences.

We seek an individual with mature faith who demonstrates cultural and historical awareness, an understanding of Reformed theology, and a practice of regular scripture study. The candidate will understand the theory and practice of spiritual formation at all ages and engage in a personal practice of spiritual growth.

The associate pastor will be a team player collaborating with others and effectively communicating and interacting with colleagues, an individual who takes initiative within the scope of designated ministries.

The associate pastor is aware of rapid changes occurring in the church and culture, and models relevant and creative adaptability.

Required qualifications:

- M.Div. and ordination within the PCUSA
- Effective preaching and public speaking skills
- Competence in curriculum development and teaching
- Understanding of the theory and practices of adult spiritual formation
- Clinical Pastoral Education Training desirable, not required

**What areas of ministry do you expect the person called to be responsible for? Share specific tasks, assignments, and programs.**

## **Christian Formation**

Develop, in partnership with lay leaders, an intentional Adult Christian Formation approach that is consistent with CPC's emerging vision and values.

Teach in various formats, i.e. lectures, small groups, Bible studies, written devotionals, podcasts.

Empower members of the congregation to contribute to the faith formation of the congregation.

Create opportunities for CPC members and friends to learn from people outside of the congregation.

## **Connections**

Expand, in partnership with the Connections Commission, the reach of connections ministries, such that every CPC member and visitor is known by name and invited into the friendship and ministry of the church.



# CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Serve as a liaison between the Connections Commission, staff, and other congregational leaders.

Support the Connections Commission as they offer opportunities for the congregation to gather, foster friendships, and enjoy social and recreation time together.

Support the Connections Commission in engaging newcomers, participating in Starting Point, joining meetings, and new member dinners.

## **Christian Witness**

Support Christian Witness elders and lay leaders and participate regularly in Christian Witness activities, inviting members of the congregation to join in service, learning, and advocacy.

Be on an anti-racism journey and support members of the congregation in theirs.

Serve as a staff liaison with mission and advocacy partners (many linked below).

**List any links that support the answers to your narratives or highlights ministries within your church/organization.**

[CPC Adult Christian Formation](#)

[CPC Christian Witness](#)

[CPC Justice](#)

[CPC Refuge](#)

[CPC Creation Care](#)

[CPC Refugee Resettlement](#)

[Luke House](#)

[Madison International Partners](#)

[Community Immigration Law Center](#)

[OwnIt](#)

[Mendota Community School](#)

[Pres House](#)

[Fairhaven School](#)

[GatherX](#)