First Congregational Church of Great Barrington
251 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230

Settled Pastor

United Church of Christ (MACUCC)

June 20, 2018

“God is able to provide you with every blessing, so that
Having all sufficiency in all things at all times,
You may abound in every good work.”

(2 Corinthians 9:8)
POSITION POSTING
LISTING INFORMATION
SCOPE OF WORK
COMPENSATION & SUPPORT
WHO IS GOD CALLING TO MINISTER WITH US?

LISTING INFORMATION

Church name: First Congregational Church of Great Barrington
Street address: 251 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230
Supplemental web links: N/A

Conference: MACUCC
Association: BERKSHIRE

UCC Conference or Association Staff Contact Person: Rev. Jill Graham

Summary Ministry Description:
After 30 years with a beloved settled minister, we now begin our new journey. We seek to become a more vibrant church with guidance and inspiration from a new pastor. We are a devoted group of life-long Congregationalists, many from other traditions and those who found their spiritual community later in their lives. The Church officers, membership and “church friends” form a strong active collaborative group of lay leadership which embody the charge of our Covenant, to be “Doers of the Word”. We enjoy financial stability in our church budget, have had a successful Capital Campaign and are responsible stewards of our endowment funds. Our historical church properties and grounds are well maintained. Our music program is built around our choir, the Roosevelt Organ, and the Pilgrim and New Century Hymnals for worship services. We seek a pastor who will be a partner in our spiritual journey.

Photographs: See Appendix A.
Insert 1 – 3 images of your church, its people, its parsonage or building or gathering space, etc.

What we value about living in our area (2 – 3 sentences):
Great Barrington is a town of approximately 7,100 residents located in the southwest corner of Massachusetts, equidistant by car from New York City and Boston. Small, independent retail stores, restaurants, professional offices and entertainment venues anchor the downtown economy. Our community is served by quality public and private schools. The area’s natural beauty, available outdoor recreational opportunities and abundant cultural venues bring people here and make this a very desirable place to live. In 2012, Great Barrington was recognized as the best small town in America by Smithsonian Magazine.

Current size of membership: 170

Languages used in ministry (other than English): N/A

Position Title: Settled Minister

Position Duration (choose one, delete the other options listed):
- **Settled** – a called position intended for longer-term ministry in which the minister moves church membership to the congregation and moves standing to related association.

Compensation Level (choose one, delete the other options listed):
- Full Time

Does the total support package meet conference compensation guidelines?

**Offer of salary and benefits package will be based on MACUCC 2018 guidelines.**

**SCOPE OF WORK**

*(Add here the Scope of Work developed by your church using the Call Agreement Workbook)*

- **Scope of Work**
  Educate and support Sunday school teachers. Guide and offer assistance as needed. Provide a safe environment for the children of our church, and lead the church’s confirmation classes.

- **Family Ministry/ Pastoral Support**
  Welcome new members and visit parishioners who are unable to attend services. Provide pastoral care to the congregation, including one on one counseling and hospital/nursing home visitation.

- **Worship**
  Prepare and coordinate all aspects of Sunday worship. Administer the sacraments of the church as well as officiate all weddings and funerals.

- **Participation**
Attend meetings and work in collaboration with all elected committees.

Core Competencies:
(List three core competencies that you imagine could be foundational in your next minister’s relationship with the church. For example, a church seeking a pastoral care minister might hope to call someone who is caring, sensitive and sociable, while a church seeking an executive minister might want an organized, detail-oriented and time-conscious person.)

We seek a person who is:
• A nurturer, who will support church families in their faith formation through counseling, education and bible study.
• A visionary who will have an appreciation of our spiritual journey and will help us discern our future mission and ministry.
• A detail-oriented person who can lead us spiritually and organizationally.

COMPENSATION AND SUPPORT

Salary Basis (from the Call Agreement Workbook, equal to Cash Salary plus Value of Parsonage/Housing Allowance):
We will offer a salary and housing package according to the 2018 MACUCC guidelines.

Benefits (choose one): Salary plus Benefits
   Salary plus Benefits
   Salary includes Optional Benefits
   No Benefits

What is the expected living situation for your next minister (e.g. parsonage, living nearby with a housing allowance, living elsewhere to commute as needed)?

Live in our parsonage

Comment on the residential/commuting expectations for your next minister.

None

State any incentives (e.g. school debt reduction or retention bonus after a certain number of years in position):

None

Describe peer and professional supports available for ministers in your association/conference:
All clergy with standing in MA Conference are encouraged to join a UCC Clergy Community of Practice. Two conference-wide days of workshops called Super
Saturdays are offered annually. The interfaith Southern Berkshire Clergy Association meets monthly. There is a monthly UCC clergy luncheon held in Pittsfield and two Association-wide gatherings annually. Rev. Jill Graham is our ACM associate Conference minister and is available to all UCC churches in our area. The 20 member churches of the Berkshire association meet at least twice annually to support the ministries of our congregations.

If applicable, describe how your church will adopt part-time adjustments in the pastoral schedule to support a minister’s bi-vocational employment:

N/A

WHO IS GOD CALLING TO MINISTER WITH US?

Describe the ministry goals you envision your next minister co-collaborating with the congregation to achieve.

- Promote the church’s message by reaching out to the community.
- Continue to be financially sustainable.
- Inspire youth.
- Increase our church’s participation in the community.
- Help craft a message to the public about what the church has to offer.
- Promote the mission work being done in the church.
- Participate in church activities.
- Help spread the message that the church experience may well serve as a source of community and comfort.
- Further develop our music program.

Describe how your vision of the minister you are now seeking will assist the congregation in making an impact beyond its walls.

Our new minister will inspire us to reach beyond ourselves, into the wider community, where we will find God’s mission for our lives.

Specify language requirements or culturally-specific capacities preferred in a next ministerial leader, and why those matter to the congregation’s sense of calling.

- Acknowledge and respect the diverse needs of our congregation.
- Appreciate that we have members from vastly different church experiences, including those who have no church experience.

Based on what you have learned about who your church is, who your church’s neighbor is, and who God is calling the church to become, describe four areas of excellence from The Marks of
**Faithful & Effective Authorized Ministry** that your next minister will display to further equip the congregation’s ministry in these areas.

- Understand and minister to people in all stages of life.
- Demonstrate excellent communication skills.
- Respect the dignity of all God’s people.
- Encourage leadership through continuing education.
Manse and Church

Church Picnic
Clinton A.M.E. Zion Church Restoration Committee Meeting in the Parish Room, 2017