All Souls Congregational Church Bangor, Maine



PROSPECTUS All Souls Congregational Church – Bangor, ME

Position to be filled: Full-Time / Associate Pastor - Minister of Christian Nurture

Introduction:

All Souls is a mission-minded congregation with an independent spirit, united by our shared desire to know God. We have deep roots in the history of Bangor, Maine that have quite literally positioned us as a cornerstone of the city. Our church family is made up of active and respected community members that span multiple generations. Our vibrant mission programs teach all ages that we are "God's hands and feet"- called to show His love in concrete ways. In the midst of an unsettled world, we find great comfort in our traditional rituals, yet welcome the challenge to learn from other perspectives. We are in search of an Associate Pastor to serve as our Minister of Christian Nurture. We seek an individual who will value our rich heritage and yet, guide us to embrace opportunities to evolve so that we might more effectively serve and witness in a changing world. A strong foundation of lay leadership has been ever present since two congregational churches joined together to found All Souls in 1912. We are eager to welcome a pastoral leader who will engage in a collaborative manner and use Scripture to deepen our faith in Jesus Christ through inspiring ways that match the energy of a region undergoing a re-vitalization of its own.

Our Church:

All Souls was created by the union of First Congregational and Central Congregational Churches after they were both ruined in The Great Fire of 1911. This fire devastated much of downtown Bangor, destroying 100 businesses, nearly 300 homes, and 7 churches. The newly formed church was built on First Congregational Church's original land and used much of the salvaged granite stone from Central Church. The history of the church structure, description of the Gothic architecture and artistry displayed in our magnificent stained glass windows is located on the church website.

Our Congregation:

We believe our ministry is rooted in how we respond to and care for one another as we grow in our individual and collective faith. We view this period of pastoral transition as a critical time. It is a time to draw closer to one another, to re-engage and strengthen our current membership, to energize our lay leadership, and to welcome new members who will enhance our mission of service to others. We are looking for an Associate Pastor who will draw upon his or her education and experience to relate the historic Christian faith to an emerging generation and inspire us all to embody that faith through bold service in our community and abroad. All Souls has a long history that understands the value of dynamic tension within its membership, particularly regarding social, political and cultural issues. We have worked at maintaining a living example of mutual forbearance so that through Christ, we can know deep unity. We believe this is a profound statement of our witness to the power of the Holy Spirit living among us. We seek an Associate Pastor who is able to provide faithful leadership to a congregation that may at times reveal our differences but at all times strives to know and to worship God throughout our lives.

Our Community:

Bangor, Maine is located in Penobscot County with a population of approximately 33,000. Penobscot County has a population of approximately 153,000. Bangor is the county's largest city and the state's third largest city. Originally founded in 1834, Bangor was once known as the lumber capital of the world. There are still mansions around the city that were once the homes of Bangor's lumber barons.

Bangor is located just forty miles from Maine's picturesque rocky coast. Acadia National Park is an hour's drive to the southeast. Baxter State Park is located an hour and a half to the north and is home to Maine's tallest mountain, Katahdin. There are numerous lakes and other recreational opportunities within a short drive of Bangor. Given its central location along Interstate 95 our community is a geographic hub for community services and commerce including highly regarded healthcare, education, entertainment, and retail shopping. Bangor International Airport provides easy access to Boston, New York City and beyond.

Many of Bangor's citizens are long-time, multi-generational members of the community. Civic pride is high among residents, including many from All Souls, who play key roles in various community institutions, boards, and committees. The arts have always been prominent in Bangor, with the region serving as home to Penobscot Theatre Company, the Bangor Symphony Orchestra, the University of Maine Museum of Art, the Maine Discovery Children's Museum, and the Bangor Public Library.

Bangor has seen a recent renaissance as an entertainment destination. The City of Bangor invested \$60 million into an arena which attracts numerous events each year including concerts, exhibitions and cultural presentations. On the Bangor Waterfront, a large outdoor stage hosts 12-15 major concerts each year and is home to the nationally recognized American Folk Festival. Sports fans in the region enjoy University of Maine college athletics and the annual high school state basketball tournament.

The City's historic downtown continues to experience a rebirth with numerous small retail shops, pubs, and restaurants.









Websites of Interest:

All Souls Congregational Church - <u>www.allsoulsbangor.com</u> Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce - <u>www.bangorregion.com</u> University of Maine - <u>www.umaine.edu</u> Husson University - <u>https://www.husson.edu/</u> Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center - <u>https://northernlighthealth.org/Eastern-Maine-Medical-Center</u> Acadia National Park – <u>https://www.nps.gov/acad/index.htm</u> Realty of Maine – <u>http://realtyofmaine.com/</u> ERA Dawson Realtors - <u>http://eradawson.com/</u> Maine Career Connect - <u>http://www.mainecareerconnect.org/</u> (relocation services)

Contacts:

Rev. Darren Morgan, Associate Conference Minister, Maine Conference UCC 337 State Street, Suite 3 Augusta, ME 04330-6122 (207) 622-3100 x 102 dmorgan@maineucc.org

