## Minnesota Conference UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

#### INTERIM POSITION POSTING

#### LISTING INFORMATION

**Church name: Olivet Congregational Church** 

Street address: 1850 Iglehart Ave, Saint Paul, MN 55104

Supplemental web links: https://olivetucc.net/

**Additional ecumenical affiliations**: The Bloom Community, a Christian church with UCC trained pastoral leadership that focuses on religious recovery.

Conference: Minnesota

**UCC Conference Staff Contact Person:** 

Rev. Cindy Mueller Steward of Search & Call and Congregational Legacy Planning 763.439.3952 (cell), 763.515.3281 (home) <a href="mailto:cindym@uccmn.org">cindym@uccmn.org</a>

**Summary Ministry Description**: Olivet Congregational Church is an open and affirming community with a long history. As a Congregational Church we have served our Merriam Park neighborhood, the greater Saint Paul community, and have a longstanding commitment to community works projects. We are recovering from Covid and a deep divide in the congregation that ended with some of the congregation deciding to leave. Olivet has been in the process of self-examination through discussions and a vote concerning which of three paths to take into the future.

## Areas for the Pastor and Congregation to work on during this transition:

- 1) Thoughtfully and prayerfully consider the social structures of Olivet and explore how to become friendlier and open for the people who are not here yet.
- 2) Olivet decided to select Path Three: care for our existing community and expand our church community. Growth could also come through partnering with another church.
- 3) Develop a greater partnership with the Bloom Community and Bloom families.

## **Olivet Photographs**:



Olivet Church 1850 Iglehart Ave. Saint Paul, MN



Working on a Habitat for Humanity project

Olivet Church Choir





Godly Play Sunday school

Family participation in worship service

What we value about doing ministry in our area: Olivet is a Saint Paul urban church serving people from the Merriam Park neighborhood and surrounding areas. There are many community projects that members support. We serve our community through food shelves, sponsoring and supporting immigrant families, Habitat for Humanity, The Department of Indian Works, the Crow Creek Indian Reservation in Fort Thompson, South Dakota, and affordable housing through Beacon Interfaith, Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul.

## Current size of membership: 60

Position Title: Olivet Pastor

Compensation Level: 3/4 Time (30-35 hrs. a week)

## SCOPE OF WORK

- Worship preparation and leadership of Sunday worship including scripture study, crafting of liturgy and bulletin, sermon preparation, guiding and sometimes finding lay liturgists, planning of music in coordination with musical staff or volunteers, preaching, offering of prayers, weddings, and funerals for participants in the worshipping community, etc...
- **Strategic planning for current and new directions in ministry -** guides the congregation's examination of heritage, mission, leadership, connections, and future as needed, provides support and leadership to the congregation in ONE OR MORE of the following:
  - 1. exploring new directions in ministry
  - 2. processing healthy conflict
  - 3. participate in wider church activities such as conference and association meetings as time permits
- **Faith formation and vitality** through prayer, Bible study, service, identifying help-ful resources and opportunities and helping lay persons take advantage of them, study and prayer to increase faith and to improve skills so as to lead, teach, preach better, energizing and deepening the spiritual connections and faith understandings of others in all they do
- **Leadership development** by working with people in the church to create ministry and programs, pastoral care in collaboration with lay people (at least to those who are sick, elderly, or grieving)
- **Community engagement -** and leading the way for the church to be an ambassador of God's love
- Faithful financial development and stewardship

## **Core Competencies:**

- 1) Knowledge of meaningful scholarship to support worship and Bible Study.
- 2) Skills in supporting and developing Olivet's long history of involvement in the Merriam Park Community, greater Saint Paul, and other communities.

- 3) Guide us in a self-examination process as a worship community to discern how we can make space to welcome people who are not yet part of our worship community.
- 4) Skills in managing a congregation and office staff.

#### COMPENSATION AND SUPPORT

## **Salary Basis:**

Based on experience and UCC guidelines prorated to 3/4 time \$ 27,700.00 To \$ 32,200.00

#### **Benefits:**

Health & Dental Insurance Based on UCC family or individual coverage as applicable Annuity 14% of Pastors salary basis "salary basis = salary + housing allowance" Housing Allowance to be negotiated

Auto Expenses reimbursed at \$ 0.625 per mile

Vacation 4 weeks per year

Life/Disability 1.5 % of salary basis, "salary basis = salary + housing allowance" Social Security offset 7.65% of salary basis, "salary basis = salary + housing allowance" Continuing education leave time (includes one Sunday) Two weeks prorated to 3/4 time Continuing education funding \$ 250.00

What is the expected living situation for your interim minister? A housing allowance is part of the benefit package.

Comment on the residential/commuting expectations for your interim minister. We would prefer that the interim minister live within the Minneapolis/Saint Paul metro area.

# Describe peer and professional supports available for ministers in your community/conference:

- There is a neighborhood ministerial organization.
- Bloom Community Ministers
- The Minnesota Conference UCC offers a robust system of peer and professional support for its clergy. Those opportunities include the following:
  - Authorized ministers' cluster groups with other authorized minister in the surrounding area.
  - Period support consultations available as requested by authorized minister w/standing in the MN Conference.
  - Conference staff provides support for authorized ministers as requested.
  - The conference ministry team has held mutual support gatherings of clergy where conference ministry team and authorized ministers can meet for support purposes.
  - o Annual authorized ministers' retreat held once a year

Over 126 years ago, the Congregational Church envisioned a Church that would minister to and serve the Merriam Park community. Before Olivet had a home church, the people of Olivet raised money for the needs of the community. With the help of construction loans from the Plymouth Congregational Church in Minneapolis and the national organization this dream was realized. A Clarence H. Johnston designed church was built at the corner of Iglehart and Dewey in the Merriam Park Community. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Olivet's history has always been one of service to the community. This focus has been consistent through wars and social upheaval. When our Interim Pastor led us through discussion of our future, the Congregation chose to "have an impact beyond our walls." Our vision for an interim minister is to guide us to be God's hands and feet here in this world.

## STATEMENT OF CONSENT

The covenantal relationship between a church and those called by that church to serve as pastors and teachers and in other ministerial positions is strengthened when vital information is openly shared by covenantal partners. To that end, we attest that, to the best of our abilities, we have provided information in this profile that accurately represents our church. We have not knowingly withheld any information that would be helpful to candidates.

As the committee charged with the responsibility for identifying and recommending a suitable new minister for our church, we have been authorized to share the information herein with potential candidates. We understand that a candidate may wish to secure further knowledge, information, and opinions about our church. We encourage a candidate to do so, recognizing that an open exchange of relevant information builds the foundation for continuing and healthy relationships between calling bodies and persons seeking a ministry position.

- 1. Which individuals and groups in the church contributed to the contents of this Position Posting? The Olivet Church Council authorized this work which was completed by the Human Resources Committee and the Olivet Church Moderator.
- 2. Additional comments for interpreting the profile: none

Gene Kath, Olivet Church Moderator

Signed: Gene Kath

Date: 7/1/2022

## VALIDATION BY CONFERENCE

The congregation is currently in good standing with the Minnesota Conference.

My signature below attests to the above item.

Signature: Cindy Mueller

Name / Title: Cindy Mueller; Steward of Search & Call and Congregational Legacy Planning

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Phone: 763.439.3952 (cell), 763.515.3281 (landline)

Date: 7/13/22

This document is created through support to Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) and is only possible through the covenantal relationships of all settings of the United Church of Christ.

"Jesus answered them, 'Have faith in God!" – Mark 11:22