

Interim Pastor

Community we serve

West Dover Congregational Church is located in beautiful West Dover, Vermont and serves not only West Dover but that of East Dover, Wilmington, and Wardsboro as well as other surrounding communities. The population of these communities varies from the smaller town of Wardsboro at 870 to the largest, Wilmington, at 2255. The total population is close to 5000.

In the early 50's Walt Schoenknecht purchased the Ruben Snow farm and developed the Mount Snow Ski Area. Today it is part of the Vail Corporation based in Colorado. This new development changed the area. Mount Snow added a golf course. Haystack was then developed as a ski area and also added a golf course. This ski area is now a private club and the golf course is privately owned. All of these changes meant that the area population changed dramatically in the winter with visitors coming from New York, Connecticut, New Jersey and Massachusetts. Many of these individuals now own vacation homes in the area. Visitors participate in snow sports as well as enjoy outdoor concerts, water sports on our local lake, and hiking.

Many of our members are retired some of whom have come to our town to enjoy their "golden" years. We have received several young families as members and have been providing a Sunday School for the past few years. Our church building serves the community by providing a meeting space for bridge, Mahjon, and AA groups. The church also sponsors cub and boy scout troops.

There is a strong women's group called the Loose Knit Group (LKG) which has nothing to do with knitting but is a group loosely gathered for their mission which is to support the church and the community financially. Members are from the church and wider community. A Food 4 Kids program delivering nonperishable food to elementary children from three schools each Friday has been operating for more than seven years.

Job Description

We are a winter ski resort community with an old, rich heritage, and our church is literally in the center of town. We need a leader, teacher, pastor, and disciple wrapped into one. That would be preferred. We would love someone who is young at heart, but mature in intellect, theology and presence. We are looking for a person with a sense of humor, yet thoughtful and theologically enlightening.

Age is irrelevant. We have women and men in their 70's and 80's who still enjoy skiing many mornings a week. If our future Interim Pastor could bring in young families and people to enhance our worship and fellowship, we would be so blessed. Simply, we need assistance finding the perfect candidate.

The Interim Pastor is responsible in providing overall leadership of the church's ministries, including Sunday worship, music, preaching to the congregants as well as the children during worship. The Interim Pastor will teach and guide the Deacons; and attend Trustee, Deacon and Council monthly meetings. During the transition period of Interim and the hiring of a permanent pastor, the Interim Pastor will encourage and generate excitement amongst the congregants.

Qualifications

Ordained or studying toward ordination

Experience as a pastor and/or interim pastor

Could be a recent seminary graduate that aspires to become an ordained pastor

Possess self-awareness and honesty

Charismatic, sense of humor

Responsibilities

Join Coffee Hour

Engage children to understand the Sunday readings

Work with musicians for Sunday worship

Prepare Sunday Bulletins

Engage with congregants

Counsel members & friends in need

Visit members to strengthen faith and help with issues they may have

Visit (Shut-Ins, Hospital Visits)

Understand and continue our church's uniqueness

Comfortable with the uncomfortable

Resolve conflicts successfully with a calming presence

Visit past members to encourage possibility of coming back

Prepare & Teach Bible Study

Communication: Newsletter, Website, Social Media Communications

Officiate Weddings & Funerals

Compensation

We will follow the UCC Ministerial Compensation Guidelines

This is a half/time position working 20/hrs per week.