



POSITION POSTING

LISTING INFORMATION

SCOPE OF WORK

COMPENSATION & SUPPORT

WHO IS GOD CALLING TO MINISTER WITH US?

LISTING INFORMATION

Church name: **TINICUM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
Street address: **310 East Dark Hollow Road, Pipersville, PA 18947**
Supplemental web links: www.facebook.com/TinicumUCCPA/
<http://www.t-ucc.org/>

Additional ecumenical affiliations (*e.g. denominations, communions, fellowships*):

Quakertown Area Ministerium

Conference: **Pennsylvania Southeast Conference**

Association: **North Penn Association**

UCC Conference or Association Staff Contact Person (Name, Title, Phone, Email):

Rev. Kevin J. McLemore, Associate Conference Minister for Search & Call, Cell: 773-717-0029, mclemore@psec.org

Summary Ministry Description:

In a short paragraph, reflect on where your church is going and what it might look like when you get there. What do you need to get there? Who are you seeking to join you on this part of your church's faith journey?

Tinicum UCC (TUCC) is an historic country church with a small, welcoming congregation and a big heart. While other churches missed services at the beginning of the pandemic, TUCC immediately switched to Zoom only services thanks to the ingenuity of members of our congregation. This connection allowed us to worship not only with ourselves but also with family and friends from out of our area, providing vital connections during that isolating time. When returning to the sanctuary was possible, we began hybrid services which we continually strive to improve.

We are seeking a minister as a result of the full retirement of our part-time settled pastor who has been with us for five years, during which new persons have joined and/or become involved in our church. Also, during this time period, our church's older members have continued to age, and several have passed away. In this time of increased non-church involvement in our society, TUCC hopes to find a way to better connect with a more diverse, multigenerational segment of our community. We know the community needs support and hope during the challenging times of our day, and TUCC needs new members of any age who are willing to partner together with us in ministry. We are seeking a minister who can both help us think creatively and practically about this outreach and growth and who can minister to our current congregation in terms of Sunday services, Bible study, and visitation.

Photographs:

Insert 1 – 3 images of your church, its people, its parsonage or building or gathering space, etc.



Historic Tinicum UCC

Spring Yard Sale 2023



Our Sanctuary



Stained glass window by local
stained glass artist
Val Sigstedt



What we value about living in our area (2 – 3 sentences):

Our church is located in a beautiful rural area full of history and natural and cultural resources, yet large cities, the shore, the Lancaster area, and the Poconos are not far away. Recreational opportunities abound with the Delaware River, Lake Nockamixon, and Peace Valley Park. Our church is in upper Bucks County but close to central Bucks County and our county seat of Doylestown. This town is home to the James A. Michener Art Museum, the Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle, and the Moravian Pottery and Tile Works as well as a variety of dining options. New Hope in central Bucks sits along the Delaware River, and Lambertville is across the river in New Jersey. These river towns

attract locals and tourists to enjoy various shopping and dining options, including the well-known Peddler's Village. <https://www.visitbuckscounty.com> for more information.

This region offers exceptional medical care with Doylestown Hospital in Doylestown, the St. Luke's University Health Network with its local hospital in the Quakertown area, and Grand View Hospital in Sellersville. More advanced medical facilities are available in the Lehigh Valley north of us through the St. Luke's University Health Network or Lehigh Valley Medical Center or south of us in the numerous facilities in Philadelphia, or west of us in neighboring Montgomery County with Jefferson Abington Hospital.

Current size of membership:

46 members, about 19 of whom are active + 9 local participants who are not members and 3 non-local active participants

Languages used in ministry (*other than English*): **None**

Position Title: **Minister (part-time)**

Position Duration (*choose one, delete the other options listed*):

Quarter-Time Long-Term Supply– a temporary pastor who fulfills the pastoral duties indefinitely, while not called as the congregation's minister.

Compensation Level (*choose one, delete the other options listed*):

15 hours per week

Does the total support package meet conference compensation guidelines? **Yes at the Supply Pastor Conference recommended pay rate of \$30 per hour**

SCOPE OF WORK

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

It is understood that the Minister will adjust the time spent on various tasks as needed to meet changing needs. Church leadership understands that extra busy weeks necessitate taking short-cuts in other areas. The expectations for the Minister include the following:

Weekly Activities

- Preparation and leadership of Sunday worship including scripture study, crafting of liturgy and bulletin, sermon preparation, hymn selection, preaching, etc.
(Church assumes responsibility for managing church services when Pastor is away.)

Less Frequent Activities

- Visits to shut-ins and limited pastoral care to others. (There are currently three shut-ins, and our current Pastor visits monthly unless there is an emergency situation.)
- Bible study (or other discussion group) conducted via Zoom on a frequency to be determined with Pastor. (If easier for the Pastor, this may be based on the upcoming Sunday's scripture.)
- Coordination with other local pastors regarding shared services for special holidays or special projects.
- Attendance at special events, such as church fundraisers, as time allows.
- Attendance at monthly Zoom Consistory meetings or special meetings when possible.
- Makes arrangements for emergency pastoral coverage when taking planned time off.
- Outreach to potential new members.
- Participates in wider church activities such as conference and association meetings as interested and as time permits.

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.)

Caring/community minded

Sociable

Organized

COMPENSATION AND SUPPORT

Salary Basis (*from the Call Agreement Workbook, equal to Cash Salary plus Value of Parsonage/Housing Allowance*): \$

15 hours per week at \$30 per hour/\$450 per week/52 weeks per year/\$23,400 annually, up to 50% of which may be classified as housing allowance (following IRS guidelines).

Benefits (*choose one*):

- **The Pastor's work year is 48 weeks with compensation for 52 weeks.**
- **Position is self-employed independent contractor (IRS1099 nec).**
- **While this position is reimbursed at 15 hours per week, it is understood that certain circumstances may necessitate working more hours some weeks. The Pastor is strongly encouraged to self-monitor his/her time and work less in the following week.**
- **There are no expectations for holding routine "hours" at church other than for Sunday services.**
- **Most meetings and Bible study are conducted via Zoom. Therefore the Pastor's travel time and expenses are reduced.**

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*)? **Living nearby with a housing allowance or living elsewhere (with a housing allowance) to commute as needed.**

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

It would be ideal if our next minister lives within a half hour driving time from church, but living further away is not a deal breaker. (Driving half an hour from our rural area to most of the surrounding towns is typical.)

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

- **Potential for increasing hours in response to church growth and increased capacity to support increased minister hours.**

- **TUCC is flexible and willing to work with a bi-vocational pastor, semi-retired pastor, or a parent pastor who wishes to work part time to have more time with children.**
- **TUCC is willing to share Pastor with another congregation (including a different denomination) as per arrangements acceptable to PSEC.**

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

North Penn Association Ministerium, Community of Practice groups,

- **North Penn Association UCC Ministerium**
- **Pennsylvania Southeast Conference Community of Practice, Clergy Convocation**
- **Quakertown Ministerium: While Tinicum UCC is not in Quakertown, it is an area of upper Bucks County offering social services and a Code Blue shelter. We have church members from Quakertown, and our church is part of the Ministerium. Our minister's involvement with this group of churches/ministers of various denominations has allowed our church to be quickly informed about relevant community needs to help homeless persons or persons who were suddenly forced to leave a single room occupancy housing site when it was shut down unexpectedly. The Ministerium sponsors ecumenical services at Thanksgiving and during Holy Week. At its ministerial gatherings it provides local clergy with mutual support and information which can be shared with the local congregations which helps cement bonds among the local churches.**
- **UCC churches in our general area work together to share in joint services for Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and an outdoor Easter Sunrise service at Lake Nockamixon.**

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

Our church is accustomed to working with part-time pastors and has not had a full time minister in many years.

WHO IS GOD CALLING TO MINISTER WITH US?

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

- **Help us grow our church to be more active and relevant in our community and better able to sustain ourselves.**
- **Help us move toward a more diverse multigenerational congregation both so we are ministering to a broader population range and to facilitate leadership transition to younger members.**
- **Increase our church's connection to the variety of resources offered by the UCC denomination.**

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

In our vision for the future, our minister will assist us in finding and implementing new and creative ways to reach out to the community and engage with persons not already connected to our church. We believe this will best be accomplished by a minister well versed in all current methods of communication and how to best utilize these to reach various population groups. In addition, an understanding of church life in a rural area would be helpful.

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

None

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.

- **Exhibiting a Spiritual Foundation and Ongoing Spiritual Practices**
- **Caring for Others**
- **Encountering the Other with Justice and Mercy**
- **Building Transformational Leadership Skills**