

Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ

Equipping, supporting and resourcing congregations and clergy for effective ministry

Position: The Wisconsin Conference of the UCC seeks a full-time Associate Conference Minister.

Priorities: The Wisconsin Conference values diversity in race, ethnicity, culture, gender identity and sexual orientation. We continually strive to widen our circle of inclusion, and thus seek a diverse candidate pool.

Scope of ministry: Regional responsibility for 58 congregations and care for all authorized ministers in the Northern region. This portfolio also includes some conference-wide programmatic and project responsibilities. Residency expectation is within the Northern region.

Primary responsibilities:

- Guide pastoral transitions (develop expertise in the profile and candidate process)
- Communicate all search and call information with the search and call coordinator
- Staff and resource Unified Committee on Ministry Teams
- Guide Members in Discernment (MIDs) and those seeking Privilege of Call or Lay Authorization
- Provide support and accountability care to authorized ministers and congregations
- Preach/participate in worship (anniversaries, ordinations, installations, invitations)
- Attend monthly field staff, wider ACM staff and full staff meetings
- Attend Annual Conference, AM21 and General Synod meetings
- Utilize leadership skills in conflict resolution and guiding compensation negotiation
- Guide congregations to resources related to organizational change and re-visioning ministry
- Encourage cohort learning for clergy – mentor, coach and Communities of Practice
- Cultivate opportunities for shared ministries and openness to emerging ministry models
- Develop a working knowledge of the Manual on Ministry and MESA best practices
- Promote justice work and foster ecumenical relationships with counterparts in other faith traditions

Candidate Qualifications:

Theology and social justice stances consistent with UCC

Sensitivity and skill in bridging range of perspectives

Authorized Standing in United Church of Christ

Significant local church pastoral experience

Strong team player and trust builder

Attentiveness to self-care

Strategic collaborator

Spiritual depth

Pastoral heart

Leadership Instincts

Non-anxious presence

Exceptional self-motivator

Gifted in discerning priorities

Strong EQ and self-awareness

Excellent communication skill set

Joyful, positive, gracious, resilient spirit

Conference snapshot: The Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ (<http://www.wcucc.org/>) comprises three regions, 204 congregations and approximately 33,000 people. The Conference staff comprises 13 talented team members. Our Conference office is located on one of our Retreat Campuses (Daycholah Center) and provides a spacious and beautiful setting for ministry and Wider Church meetings. The congregations of the Wisconsin Conference are hearty, faithful and resilient. We savor our long and rich history from both the Congregational Christian and Evangelical and Reformed traditions, yet we also welcome new models for ministry and innovative ways to engage the world spiritually and prophetically.

The churches of the Wisconsin Conference continue to provide steady support to Our Church's Wider Mission and to our UCC special offerings. Many of our congregations have cultivated thriving community-based ministries and active justice working groups. Our Outdoor Ministries inspire people of all generations through three incredible camp and retreat settings: Daycholah Center (located on Green Lake), Moon Beach Camp (located in the far north near Eagle River), and Cedar Valley Retreat Center (located near West Bend). We also share with the Minnesota Conference an online learning institute called the Damascus Project.

Residential expectation: We anticipate this ACM will reside in the Northern region, most likely in the Eau Claire area. Eau Claire is thriving university city with great music, restaurants, arts and culture located along the Chippewa River. Here is a link to the Eau Claire Magazine: <https://volumeone.org/home>

Compensation: The salary/housing range is \$78-\$83K, along with a generous benefit package.

Application: Please direct your UCC profile to [Andrea Vik](#) at the Conference office and forward a cover letter that responds to these questions:

- 1) Why are you interested in judicatory work, and why this position in particular?
- 2) What unique skills, gifts and experiences would you bring to this ministry?

Application deadline: January 15, 2026

Anticipated start date: Spring, 2026

Contact: [The Rev. Franz Rigert](#), Conference Minister (or 414-704-2625)

About Northern Wisconsin

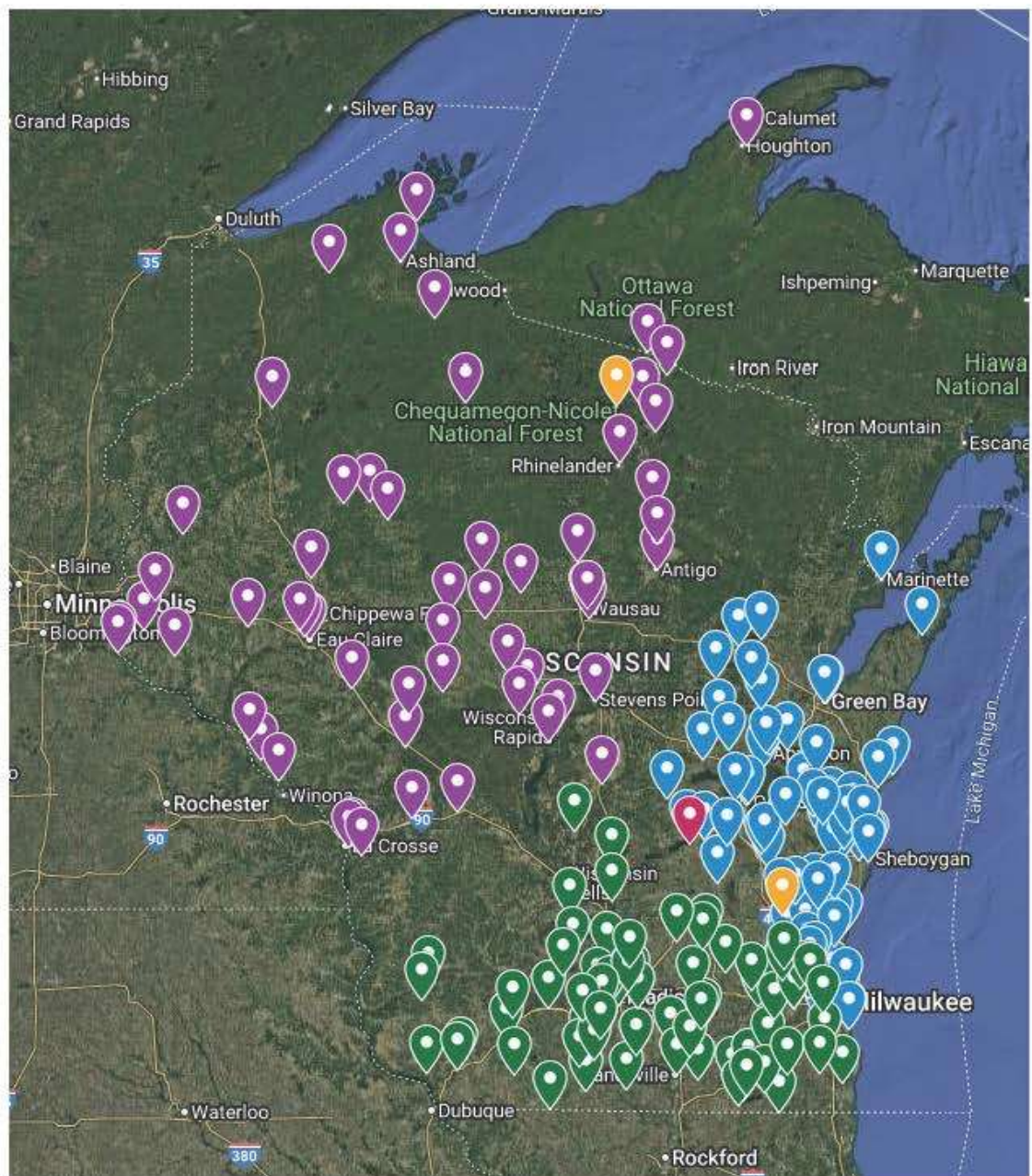
This Associate Conference Minister serves the Northern region of the Wisconsin Conference, stretching from La Crosse in the south to Madeline Island in the north, from the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers in the west to Land O' Lakes and Stevens Point in the east. The region also includes one congregation in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

The region contains several small and medium-sized cities and contains five four-year campuses of the University of Wisconsin and Northern Michigan University, along with three two-year campuses. There are technical colleges, private colleges, factories and farms, and a thriving tourism industry and arts community. The region offers many opportunities for hunting, fishing, camping and snow-related activities that attract people from across the Midwest. The Northern region is home to an active Native American UCC congregation, and several of the 11 recognized tribes in Wisconsin.

There are 58 congregations with roots reaching deep into the history of the Christian church and the communities of this region. One distinctive characteristic is the number of licensed ministers serving congregations in this area – there are 15 licensed ministers who receive ongoing training, far more than the other two regions in the state. There are 35 ordained clergy serving congregations and an additional 55 who have retired in the region. Seventeen of the 58 congregations have declared themselves open and affirming.

The geographic distances in the region pose challenges in connecting people with one another, yet this region has made great strides in nurturing collegial relationships, and the expansion of broadband internet (coupled with the gift of Zoom) has been a game changer. Increasingly, there are opportunities for collaboration with ecumenical partners.

Wisconsin Conference UCC Map of churches by region



Purple - Northern Region (58 churches)
 Green - Southern Region (72 churches)
 Blue - Eastern Region (74 churches)
 Yellow and red - United Church Camps properties
 Red - Wisconsin Conference office at Daycholah Center

For an interactive version of this map, go to <https://tinyurl.com/wcuccmap>