United Church of Broomfield

Interim/Designated Associate Pastor – Part Time

2022 SEARCH

1. We’re looking for an enthusiastic, motivated, and well-organized associate pastor to support the lead pastor and the church’s various ministries, and primarily focus on leading and growing the needs of children, youth, and young families. The associate pastor should have demonstrable experience directing, coordinating, and leading Sunday School programs and selecting and teaching curricula to children of all ages.

2. Compensation Package: We are offering $19,050-$22,225 for salary and housing, depending upon experience and qualifications. There are no benefits offered with this position. This is a part-time position (20 hrs/week).

3. Five Priorities for the Associate Pastor to focus on with the congregation:
   a. Cover lead pastor’s 2022 Sabbatical
   b. Lead and help grow children and youth programming/ministries
   c. Christian Education
   d. Worship
   e. Pastoral Care

4-5 Narrative and Thumbprint of The United Church of Broomfield:

We are an open and affirming congregation (since 2004) that values family, community, and an open-minded theology that demonstrates our inclusivity and welcoming attitude. If we had to put a label on our theology, it would probably be “moderate to moderately-liberal.” We offer open and diverse messages in a welcoming community that allows everyone to practice and explore their relationship with the Creator. We advocate and honor the UCC’s motto that “God is still speaking,” which doesn’t simply tolerate, but encourages and expects everyone to question and explore how we are in relationship with God and how we strengthen that relationship through new understandings of God’s word, religion, spirituality and theology. As we do this, we remain consistent in our belief in Jesus’ commandment to love our creator and love creation. This guides all that we say and do. We are imperfect and okay with it because we commit ourselves to growing and improving as we follow the way of Jesus.

Church members enjoy a variety of social activities like our annual all-church progressive dinner, small group gatherings, jazz nights, hikes, pancake breakfasts and suppers, and many, many more. We also enjoy working together on fundraisers and community service; our annual lawnmower clinic, collecting items for Broomfield Fish and volunteering for A Precious Child, to name a few. We gather outside of worship for activities that promote spiritual education and
growth like our bible study classes, book studies, youth outings and J.O.Y. groups.

In many ways, our history parallels the history of Broomfield. In late 1957, shortly after the city itself was founded, Rev. Harold Rarick started a worship group. In March of 1958, the group held its first official service in Rev. Rarick’s home on Midway Blvd. just west of Main Street, with 40 people attending. Two months later, the group officially formed the United Church of Broomfield. Church members continued meeting in homes until April 2, 1961, when we opened our church building at our current location at 825 Kohl Street.

Broomfield is a wonderful city in which to live, visit and worship. Broomfield is loved for its hometown feel, beautiful parks and plentiful open space. Broomfield’s central location between Boulder and Denver makes it the perfect spot for commuters, as well as being able to access the benefits of big city living and access outdoor living and recreation. We not only get to view the beautiful Rocky Mountains, but our church is less than an hour drive from all they have to offer. Broomfield was named one of the best places to live in 2020 by Money Magazine\(^1\) and one of the healthiest communities in 2020 by U.S. News & World Report.\(^2\)

We have always treated our building not just as a place for our own use, but as an opportunity to serve the community. We are the proud sponsors of Boy Scout Troop 511, which has met in our building since 1988. Seeing a need for quality before and after school care for the children who attend Kohl Elementary, just across the street from us, we opened the Kohl Street Kids before and after school program in 1985. We added a preschool program in 1990. Today, both programs are still going strong. Over the years, we have also provided meeting places for a number of community groups, notably Alcoholics Anonymous, and other kinds of support groups. Most recently we provided space for the annual Broomfield Piano Festival.

We currently have a membership of 105 officially, but typically our Sunday worship is around 65-75. Sunday Worship attendance has stayed consistent through COVID, but naturally has transitioned into a hybrid of “in-person” and “virtual.” Prior to COVID, we offered no virtual worshipping options, but allowed the challenges of COVID to help us grow into a hybrid church. Of our 65-75 attendees on Sunday, approximately 20% are now online and attend locally from Broomfield and surrounding cities as well as locations beyond Colorado’s state borders. As a congregation, we have members aged 2 to 100, with a majority being over the age of 45. We are a predominantly white congregation with diversity in our genders, sexual orientations, as well as marital, economic, political and theological statuses.

The United Church of Broomfield is relatively small, but our members are active and engaged both in our church and in the community. We are a family church with a wide and expansive definition of family and a focus on service. Our missions-ministry has adopted a shelf at the local food pantry in which members donate to on a regular basis. Individual members volunteer both at the Food Pantry, and at other non-profits which serve those in need or

\(^1\) https://money.com/collection/best-places-to-live-2020/5699455/broomfield-colorado-2020/
\(^2\) https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/rankings
provide support of the arts in the community. We may not be as big as some churches, but we are fortunate to have a congregation that lives out the call to discipleship in the community.

Our music ministry provides music from traditional hymns (the UCC’s New Century Hymnal and the Pilgrim Hymnal), offers choir performances, and we have a praise band, Undying Flame, that performs a wide selection of music from contemporary Christian artists, pop-music, Broadway and more. The congregation is encouraged to offer their music talents, vocally and/or instrumentally, and we welcome and enjoy guest performers who want to share their talents and help us offer diverse and beautiful music in worship.

We are a financially stable and transparent church. We would love to have large endowments that would ensure we never have to worry about a random maintenance problem, an unexpected hardship or to be able to support all creative dreams of service. But, not having “lots of money,” has never stopped us from taking care of ourselves and generously contributing to our community. Our congregation is exceptionally generous, fiscally responsible and has always allowed God’s wisdom and grace to inform our planning, giving and care for God’s creation.

Like most churches, we want to grow but we don’t want to grow simply in numbers, we want to grow spiritually, theologically and as a community. We want to “keep becoming” that which God and Jesus have taught through the ages: compassionate, welcoming and ready-to-serve. We recognize that how we serve today, may be very different tomorrow. The world is ever-changing and we want to be in-tune with those changes so that we can best serve in whatever way that may be.