

## **Sabbatical Pastor Posting**

Hummelstown UCC seeks a halftime (20 hours a week) Sabbatical Pastor to guide and support the congregation while the Pastor is on a sabbatical for 13 weeks. The position is intended to cover a full range of pastoral and administrative responsibilities in conjunction with church leadership from the Gift Team Board and volunteer lay leadership.

### **Background**

Our Vision & Mission Statement states: "We are a vibrant and progressive Christian community embracing inclusivity and diversity with all who seek to enrich their spiritual journey. Using the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Still Speaking God, we seek to engage the world through worship, education, ministry, mission, and love."

Hummelstown UCC became an Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ in 2017 and we live out that commitment in our worship, education, and leadership. Our ONA Statement says: "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." (John 15:12) Recognizing there are those who have known the pain of discrimination in the church and society, we invite everyone to experience God's love here. The United Church of Christ of Hummelstown affirms all persons are created in the image of God and so welcome the full inclusion of all people in the communion, life, and ministries of this community of faith seekers. We celebrate and embrace diversity of faith journey, economic status, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, national origin, age, relationship status, physical or mental ability, and political affiliation. We proclaim this statement of inclusion – no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

Upholding these statements and continuing to lead our congregation in this path is critical for the sabbatical coverage pastoral position. We seek someone who can minister to all of the members of our diverse population.

### **Staff and Volunteers**

Hummelstown UCC has three paid staff members and many active volunteers and leaders. We function with a "Gift Team" structure and are governed by our "Gift Team Board". During the Sabbatical, the official supervision of the staff will fall to the board representatives of each of these Gift Teams. Fellowship & Family will have oversight of the Music Director. Administration will have oversight of the Sexton. The Board will have oversight of the Office Administrator. The Sabbatical Coverage Pastor will have engagement with all of these leaders,

and we expect, will assist in clear communications with paid staff and volunteers, but will not have to have primary oversight.

### **Qualifications:**

UCC Ordained Ministerial Standing preferred, Authorized Ministerial Partner Status, Ordination in another denomination or seminary preparation that meets Harrisburg Association Committee on Ministry Approval for Lay Ministerial Status. At least 5 years of ministry experience preferred. Interim training and experience with sabbatical coverage encouraged, but not required.

### **Major Duties and Responsibilities**

During the 13 weeks between Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 and Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup> 2025, the Sabbatical Pastor's major responsibilities will be

- Preparation and leadership of Sunday worship including scripture study, crafting of liturgy and bulletin, sermon preparation, guiding lay liturgists, planning of music in coordination with musical staff or volunteers, preaching, offering of prayers, etc.
- Pastoral care, in collaboration with lay people, to connect with at home worshipping disciples, be available to assist with emergency pastoral care as needed, and conduct funerals as needed for disciples
- Engaging with our small congregation of diverse backgrounds, ages, sexual orientations and theologies. (See our Open & Affirming Statement and Vision and Mission Statement in the background statement)
- Provide theological assistance to lay leadership in charge of the bible study and faith formation programs as needed. Attendance would be appreciated, as time allows,
- Attend meetings of the congregation, in collaboration with lay leadership. Meetings & Leadership includes but is not limited to:
  1. Monthly Gift Team Board meetings, any additional board meetings,
  2. Church wide Gift Team meetings to build relationships with and support the church's ministry teams
  3. Meetings and activities of the church to maintain pastoral engagement
- Participate in wider church activities such as conference and association meetings
- Administration responsibilities, such as email
- Recognizing that this position is part time, we encourage but don't require participation in regular scheduled community opportunities our congregation is involved with:
  - Central PA Pride Booth

- New Cumberland Pride attendance (or engagement with New Cumberland Pride activities publicized and encouraged by the church)
- Area Ministerium
- Congregation Events - game nights, campfires, monthly meals, etc.
- Availability to wider community for funerals, weddings, special worship programs, and as a representative of the church to local organizations.

This list is not meant to be comprehensive of all ministerial activities. Church leadership will be able to provide guidance on the prioritization of activities as needed.

### **Compensation**

The sabbatical period is 13 weeks, with a total compensation of \$8,000.