



POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Virginia is the process of prayerfully discerning and seeking to call an ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to the position of Regional Minister. A Regional Profile and Position Description are posted on the following web-site (www.ccinva.org). All interested applicants are required to provide updated search and call paper work in order to be considered. Furthermore, all applicants are required to submit a Letter of Interest to the Virginia Regional Office addressed to: Search Committee Chairperson, Christian Church in Virginia, 1290 Enterprise Drive, Lynchburg, Virginia 24502. We thank God in advance for a wonderful and inspiring process for the search committee and each candidate.

The application deadline is July 31, 2018.



CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ) IN VIRGINIA

POSITION DESCRIPTION FOR THE REGIONAL MINISTER

I. TITLE: REGIONAL MINISTER of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) In Virginia.

II. NATURE AND FUNCTION

The Regional Minister shall be Regional Pastor and Chief Executive Officer with pastoral and administrative responsibilities for the ministry of the Regional Church.

III. QUALIFICATIONS

A. SPIRITUAL: The Regional Minister shall be a person who has a deep faith in Jesus Christ, loves to proclaim it and clearly lives it. This individual shall be committed to understanding and upholding the Ministerial Code of Ethics of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

B. CREDENTIALS: Hold the minimum of a degree from an accredited College or University and the Master of Divinity or equivalent degree from a recognized and ATS accredited Theological Seminary.

C. PROFESSIONAL: Be an ordained Minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in good ministerial standing. Have a minimum of five year's ministerial experience. Understanding of our diverse Disciple heritage and be able to share the vision and the mission of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Possess demonstrated skills in the areas of administration, pastoral care, communication and leadership. Candidates will have certification in Healthy Boundary Training for ministry and will have received training and be committed to Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism ministries.

D. PERSONAL: The candidate shall demonstrate a commitment to self-health with a deep awareness and passion for God, themselves, and others. A person who lives in the reality of God's love and can share that healthy passion with others.

IV. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. PASTORAL - The Regional Minister shall -

1. Lead the Region spiritually providing passion and vision from God.
2. Express pastoral concern for clergy and congregations within the region.
3. Shepherd congregations through leadership transitions.
4. Enable personal and professional growth of the clergy,

5. Provide resources for ministerial and/or congregational crises.
6. Understand and promote the ecumenical vision and values of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

B. ADMINISTRATIVE - The Regional Minister shall -

1. Communicate the mission of the Regional Church to all constituents and implement a communication plan.
2. Insure that necessary policies and operational procedures are documented and implemented.
3. Make available to congregations and districts, regional resources such as available programs, skilled leadership, and consultation.
4. Provide faithful financial leadership that promotes our mission priorities.
5. Implement fund raising development strategies for new initiatives and sustaining ministry programs.
6. Supervise and annually evaluate support staff.

C. ECUMENICAL - The Regional Minister shall -

1. Represent the Region in appropriate ecumenical partnerships.

V. ACCOUNTABILITY - The Regional Minister shall be accountable to the Administrative Council with annual evaluations according to current Personnel policy.



Regional Profile

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Virginia

“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member but of many.”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-14)

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Virginia is a matrix of congregations, ministries and relationships committed to serving God and our neighbors. We have intentionally committed ourselves to a journey of transition and change toward more effective ministry. Therefore, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Virginia seeks to become a transformational regional body, effective in communication, planning and response to dynamic and changing mission needs.

In early 2016, the Regional Community adopted a provisional regional structure and a two-year transitional regional minister was called to minister with us. To facilitate our discernment process and strategy – for the present and future church – the transitional regional minister and leadership have focused upon four core responsibilities:

- Discern new opportunities for ministry;
- Strengthen our relationships with congregations and clergy;
- Provide much needed education and nurture of ministers and lay leadership;
- Help transform a cumbersome, outdated regional structure.

God has blessed us with new vision and insight which has led us to the formation of Mission and District Councils to more effectively respond and share resources for ministry and the restructure of our Board of Directors and transformation into an Administrative Council streamlining the work of our volunteers, to more specifically, lessen the time and energy our regional minister spends on administration and management of the region’s resources.

We seek to be a healthy, thriving regional body, with a regional minister of highest integrity who leads with passion and vision from God. We understand the difficulties in management of time and resources as a regional minister without the benefit of additional clergy staff and are examining how we as a region can better support our regional minister – to accomplish the work of our region.

We seek a regional minister who will:

- Develop new transformational ministries that provide our congregations with opportunities for spiritual growth, revitalization, fellowship, and the sharing of mission and outreach opportunities beyond our church doors with other congregations and the region.
- Recruit, train, and integrate us into lay/clergy ministry teams and new response teams. These are intended to improve response time and effectiveness, in meeting the needs of our congregations and clergy as well as for the development of new leaders. This regional ministry partnership would be to relieve some of the work load from staff, while expanding the ability of the region to ensure robust support of all ministries, programs, congregations, and clergy.
- Share in creating and developing a commitment to thriving regional stewardship.
- Respond personally in times of crisis for clergy and congregations, with the support of ministry response teams.
- Plan, organize, and control the management and administration of the region. This would include implementing a communication plan between congregations, clergy, and laity.
- Provide pastoral care for congregations and clergy as well as the transition of leadership in our congregations.
- Represent the region at special times in our congregations, as well as ecumenically, and at the General Church level.
- Reserve time in his/her schedule for transforming congregations, mentoring new church starts, as well as visioning, aligning, and motivating people to do the work of the region.

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Virginia is a large region geographically, culturally and theologically. The 2017 Yearbook and directory shows over 150 congregations with 13,166 members. We are blessed with the ministry and witness of National Convocation congregations in our region which contribute to the diversity of our witness. We have a regional office in Lynchburg, Virginia and own and operate Craig Springs Camp and Conference Center. One of the challenges we face is strengthening our witness for racial equality in rural Craig county where the camp is located. We have also faced difficult times as our regional staff was downsized, and we were not equipped to respond to the well documented changes in mainline denominations.

The good news is that the transitional work ongoing in Virginia is preparing us for just this moment as we truly believe God is working through us and in our next regional minister to bring into focus a new vision for our ministry. We are praying together for the one God is sending who will empower, train, nurture and care for us. We pledge to support and work alongside our new leader to be a faithful growing church that demonstrates true community in our shared ministries, relationships, and worship. We hope to demonstrate a deep Christian spirituality in our councils and express a passion for justice in all we do.