



Position Description Stated Supply Pastor

Overview

[Clarendon Presbyterian Church](#), a member congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the National Capital Presbytery (NCP), is a community of faith in Arlington, Virginia guided by a simple mission of inclusion, welcome, service, and justice:

“Following the Spirit’s call to go into the world with love, joy, and creativity, we are a community of faith following the way of Jesus in solidarity with marginalized and disenfranchised people doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with God. We seek companions on the journey from all* walks of life.

**All means all: all races, ages, abilities, genders, orientations, classes, questions, and doubts.*

After 16 years of service marked by energy, intelligence, imagination, and love, Clarendon’s pastor has embarked on the next chapter of his pastoral journey. Similarly, Clarendon is embarking on a journey of its own, drawing on its history of welcome, hospitality, and advocacy to explore and live into what it means to be church in a changing community and world.

The Community

Clarendon Presbyterian is a small, vibrant, progressive community located in the heart of Arlington. A longtime member of [More Light Presbyterians](#), Clarendon has a long history of advocating for inclusion and justice for the disenfranchised and working to serve the needs of the marginalized and vulnerable. The community’s mission focus is grounded in the Gospels and reaches groups that include LGBTQIA individuals, those facing housing and/or food insecurity, and immigrants. Hospitality and fellowship of the table are fundamental to Clarendon’s identity and much of the community’s activity – inside and outside worship – is devoted to feeding body, mind, and spirit and using its time, treasure, and talents to extend welcome to those with faith and those with doubts.

Over the past several years, Clarendon has prayerfully taken steps to create a staffing model to strengthen administrative support and music ministry, improve the community’s financial sustainability and facilities, and discern its mission focus and secure outside resources to support that focus.

The Position

Clarendon Presbyterian is seeking a leader (Stated Supply Pastor) who will:

- Integrate Scripture with the mission of the community through worship leadership, bringing an understanding of the Reformed tradition and relating it to the opportunities and challenges of a broader community and denomination in transition. Specifically, this means a commitment to a worship leadership style that can draw on the best of the Reformed tradition and inspire the community to apply its lessons in a new and changing context.
- Shepherd a small and vibrant community in holding fast to what makes it unique while exploring options for being church in new and creative ways, including discernment of longer-term ministerial leadership and outreach to families and young people to further diversify the community.
- Lead and manage a small, part-time staff and lay leadership (elders and deacons) to help create an environment – in and out of worship – that reflects the values of the Clarendon community.
- Foster an environment that reflects the community’s commitment to welcome and authentically include **all** people, regardless of race, income, family status, sexuality, nation of origin, belief or doubt.
- Engage with the broader community (Arlington County/Northern Virginia, National Capital Presbytery, PCUSA), to form and maintain constructive partnerships, representing and advocating for the needs and values of the Clarendon community.
- Embody the values of “energy, intelligence, imagination, and love,” as articulated in the Book of Order.

The position is designed as a part-time contract (75% time, which includes preaching three of four Sundays in months with four Sundays). The minimum effective salary for this position is \$64,089, plus applicable benefits (Board of Pensions contribution, FICA, paid personal and study leave). Contract terms are negotiable within congregational, National Capital Presbytery, and PCUSA guidelines.

Qualifications

The successful candidate will:

Be:

- An ordained teaching elder in the PCUSA.
- Eligible to become a member of National Capital Presbytery (if not currently).

Have:

- A Master of Divinity (M. Div.) or recognized equivalent.
- 2-4 years of leadership experience in a congregational setting (including worship leadership); preference given to experience in a small congregation (under 100 members).
- Experience in management of paid staff and lay/volunteer leadership (preferably in a congregational setting).
- A record of community engagement that includes building and maintaining coalitions and external relationships, advocating on behalf of marginalized groups, and cultivating and managing volunteer leadership.

Demonstrate:

- Excellent oral, written, and interpersonal communications skills.

- Working knowledge of PCUSA polity and governance.
- Commitment to a progressive and inclusive articulation of the Reformed tradition through the community's worship, work, and relationships.
- Energy, intelligence, imagination, and love in approaching all aspects of the community's life (worship, mission, governance, engagement).

The Process

Eligible candidates may send their Personal Information Form to clarendonpcsearch@gmail.com. Review of candidates will begin in December 2019 and will continue until a candidate and contract are approved.

A Congregational Leadership Working Group designated by Session will review candidate materials, conduct an initial screening, and recommend candidates to Session for further review. Finalists will be invited for an interview with Session and may be asked to provide guest worship leadership at another congregation (to be determined) within National Capital Presbytery.

The selected candidate will be nominated by the Congregational Leadership Working Group for Session approval and issuance of contract (to be approved by National Capital Presbytery).

For More Information

Questions about the position, the community, and the selection process should be directed to:

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