



Job Posting Announcement

Pastor, Underwood Memorial Baptist Church

1916 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa WI 53213 | underwoodchurch.org

Overview

For 170 years, members of Underwood Memorial Baptist Church have come together to experience God through our love for one another and compassion for those on the margins. We have a long history of being progressive and practical, of working behind the lines rather than outside of them. We offer a welcoming and affirming place for all and excel at fostering rich relationships that bring about spiritual growth, healing, and community-building. We are laid back and willing to try new things. Our adaptability and commitment to social justice have endured for 170 years and ensure that our worship and worldviews are always relevant to the times. At Underwood you will find deep, proud roots in our history, and wings ever-ready to open to the future and embrace the world.

Role and Responsibilities

We seek a pastor with whom we can share Underwood's unique gifts and who is inspired to share those gifts with others. The pastor we seek will be as collaborative in thought and deed as we are. Our new pastor will help us in our spiritual growth and we, in turn, hope that our pastor expects to spiritually grow as she/he ministers with us.

We seek a pastor who will deliver passionate and eloquent reflections upon the Bible and how it impacts our world and way of living. Particularly we value engaging, thought-provoking sermons, Bible studies and informal discussions that offer historical and biblical context as well as relevant application to our personal lives and to broader social justice concerns. The pastor we seek will help provide a teaching ministry that is based on theological, educational and historical foundations.

The pastor we seek will also provide – by word and presence – an empathetic understanding of and concern for persons in their joys as well as their crises and transitions of life, giving assistance where appropriate and feasible. We seek a pastor to provide opportunities for individuals, couples, families and/or groups to enter into healing relationships with each other and themselves through God's love. This pastor will make connections with church members in their homes, at work, or in other settings. Our new pastor will guide us in being exemplars of Christianity by living good, faithful, socially conscious lives as befit our church.

Finally, we seek a pastor who will cooperate with other churches in our community and denomination, and who will work (with us) to ensure our presence as a strong progressive voice in the American Baptist community and beyond. Please note that at Underwood, the pastor will serve as ex-officio to our Ministry Council and be accountable to God, the Ministry Council and church membership.

Qualifications

Our ideal candidate must:

- Be welcoming and affirming of everyone regardless of religious beliefs, background, age, race, culture, gender, physical abilities, sexual orientation and/or gender identity
- Be open to new ideas, beliefs and practices
- Excel at building and maintaining relationships that foster spiritual growth at the individual and communal levels
- Deliver thoughtful and thought-provoking sermons that connect biblical teachings to present-day social justice concerns
- Generate ideas to help our congregation better serve our religious community and communities in need
- Enjoy teaching the congregation and broadening our understanding of our faith and the world
- Hold American Baptist ordination credentials or be able and willing to complete the process, which includes the completion of an M.Div. or its equivalent

It is preferable that a candidate possess:

- Experience in organizing and/or engaging in social justice work
- An ability to draw from multiple sources and texts for her/his sermons
- A firm understanding of finances and the realities of stewardship in a smaller-sized, (lower) middle-class congregation
- Experience working with and bolstering youth ministry
- A sense of humor, taste for Jell-O, and appreciation of the Green Bay Packers (per the children of our church)

Compensation Package

This is a full-time, salaried position with the expectation that our pastor will work 40 hours per week. The range for our total compensation package is \$45,500-\$55,500, commensurate with credentials and experience. This package includes salary, housing, retirement, Social Security offset, medical and dental. Salary, housing and retirement amounts are divided at the discretion of the pastor. Additional non-monetary benefits (e.g., sabbatical time and vacation time) may be discussed during the interviewing stage and/or hiring process.

Further Information

For more information about Underwood Memorial Baptist Church, please visit our website at underwoodchurch.org. Our website includes a copy of our comprehensive Church Profile specifically for our pastoral search at www.underwoodchurch.org/pastoral-selection-committee

How to Apply

Thank you for taking an interest in the Pastor position at Underwood. If you feel you are a good fit with our congregation, we would encourage you to apply for this position by completing the following steps. Our application deadline is **Monday, February 1, 2016**.

1. Please fully read/view the Underwood Church Profile 2015 document ([Google doc](#) | [site](#)).
2. To apply, please submit electronic copies (Word, Google Doc or PDF) of a cover letter, resume and any other electronic materials to the email address underwoodpsc@gmail.com
 - Include links to recorded sermons, online portfolio or other resources in cover letter or resume
 - Please include in your cover letter what you hope to give to Underwood, what you hope to receive from Underwood, and how you envision sharing Underwood's unique gifts with others.

Individuals we are interested in talking with will be contacted **after the February 1 deadline**.