

First United Methodist Church of Evanston
Full Time Pastoral Resident - Job Description
February 2016

Mission Statement

First United Methodist Church is a community of Christians inviting all people to grow in their relationship with God and to live their faith in the world.

The Full Time Pastoral Resident position is a one-year, full time position from June 1, 2016 through May 31, 2017 (non-renewable) funded by the church's Watts Education and Outreach Fund given in memory of Russell and Vera Watts. The compensation package for the position is \$36,000 for the year, this includes a \$24,000 per year salary and a \$12,000 per year stipend for housing and health insurance. The residency is designed to provide a rising third year Master of Divinity student or a recent graduate of a M.Div. program with exposure to ministry in a vital, historic congregation that has been revitalized during the past 20 years. The resident will become a part of the pastoral staff and share significant pastoral and leadership responsibilities with a focus on the congregation's recently adopted strategic plan. In addition the resident will receive weekly coaching from the senior pastor. The successful candidate for this position will have the following qualities;

- A certified candidate for ordained ministry (elder track) in the United Methodist Church (or equivalent standing in another denomination.)
- A record of service to marginalized people
- A record of academic excellence
- A deep spiritual maturity and vitality
- Commitment to working collaboratively within a ministry team
- Experience in leadership, service, and learning with a faith community
- Willingness to seek and accept feedback
- Commitment to an inclusive vision of Christian community.
- Ability attract, inspire and retain volunteers

Primary Responsibilities

Young Adult Ministry

The Full Time Pastoral Resident (FTPR) will be responsible for the development and growth of the Young Adult Ministry of First Church. (III.B.c-d)¹ The pastor will help facilitate the church's ongoing ministry to all congregation members and constituents who identify as young adults.

¹ Draft Strategic Plan January 2016

The *FTPR* will be responsible for the implementation of a sustainable framework for continued growth the church's young adult ministry. This framework will include a variety of teaching/learning, service, worship, and fellowship opportunities. The *FTPR* will serve as the principal pastoral contact with this age demographic and he/she will use a variety of 'best practices' for engagement and connection to these individuals. These programs will reflect the diverse nature of our community and *will be appreciative of our differences of age, gender, race, education, economic status, and sexual orientation.*

Creating a faith-based personal finance education

The Full Time Pastoral Resident (*FTPR*) will be responsible for working with a lay committee to choose or creating a faith-based personal finance education program for church and community members. (I.C.b)² In the winter/spring of 2017 the committee and *FTPR* will offer the first program of personal finance education. It is hoped that this program will be presented on an annual basis for the community following the 2017 offering. Debt among our younger members is a pressing issue especially in a community such as Evanston where the cost of living often exceeds a family's finances.

Create and lead a process of volunteer recognition and placement

The Full Time Pastoral Resident (*FTPR*) will be responsible for researching and proposing a church wide process of volunteer recruitment, recognition and placement. (I.B.3.a-b)³ This program would support the congregation's commitment to rotational leadership. It will also explore liturgical practices to commission and thank leaders regularly in the congregation's life. This research and development will take place in collaboration with a lay committee that is formed to study and implement this process.

Worship Leadership and Preaching

The *FTPR* will provide regular leadership in the congregation's worship life as a liturgist and occasional preacher at Sunday and special services. (III.A)⁴ The resident will also have opportunity to observe/participate in weddings, baptisms and memorial services.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care for members of the congregation will be shared with the *Senior Pastor, Pastor of Youth and Family Ministries* and *Pastor of Pastoral Care*. Pastoral care of the needs of young adults will be coordinated by the *FTPR*.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

Reporting Relationships

The *Full Time Pastoral Resident* (FTPR) reports directly to the *Senior Pastor*. Job performance will be reviewed quarterly by the *Senior Pastor* and annually the *Staff Parish Relations Committee*. During the year, the FTPR will attend weekly staff meetings, monthly program staff meetings, committee meetings as assigned by the Senior Pastor and will be coached in a weekly meeting with the Senior Pastor.

To Apply

Please send a cover letter, resume, a 250 word reflection by the candidate on his/her call to a local church pastorate, three personal or professional references (one which must be the candidate's current or past pastor), and current seminary transcript to dean@faithatfirst.com. All applications will be confidential.