

Request for Pastoral Bridge Leadership

First Congregational Church of Hampton, NH, Inc.
127 Winnacunnet Road
Hampton, NH 03842

www.fcchampton.org

<https://www.facebook.com/fcchampton.org>

Seeking: Bridge Pastor for full-time position, includes parsonage. We are looking for a compassionate person who can tend to the spiritual needs of our congregants who have experienced the retirement of a loved pastor of 21 years and 2 years of Covid gathering restrictions. We need a creative person who can help us transition to unknown opportunities such as: an updated Sunday school program, community-wide missions, increasing public outreach by live-streaming services on Sunday, starting the "Open and Affirming" process, weddings and funerals.

Situation: The church's pastor retired in 2020 after 21 years of service. For the past two years we were served by an interim pastor who fulfilled a two-year contract, leaving the church prepared for a settled pastor search. The timeline for our search is unknown, however, we are looking for a bridge pastor to serve until a settled pastor is called. The bridge pastor may be considered for the settled pastor position.

Expectations: The bridge pastor would be asked lead weekly worship services including communion once a month. In addition, the church needs a bridge pastor who would provide pastoral care and congregation support. This could become a full-time position.

What we need most during this transition is to execute an effective search for a settled pastor. The bridge pastor may be asked to provide advice to the pastoral search committee. If the bridge pastor is interested in becoming the settled pastor, the committee would look to Reverend Rankin or the associate conference minister for support.

We also believe that the future of the church may not be just the Sunday service model. Streaming Sunday services are recorded and viewed providing opportunities for congregation or other public outreach. We, therefore, look at this time of transition to explore various approaches to serve the needs of our members and friends as well as fulfill our mission.

Congregation Information

First Congregational Church is a welcoming congregation that has been witnessing the gospel of Jesus Christ continuously since 1638. We are the founding church of Hampton and we are proud of the many ways that we continue to serve our growing

community. Our missions support local social service agencies, as well as our own mission, God's Baby Closet, that supports families in need. We also support Our Church's Wider Mission, and our sister church in Zimbabwe.

Current Membership: 156
Active Non-Members: 20
2015 Membership: 168
2010 Membership: 152

Weekly Attendance per week prior to covid-19

Fall to Christmas: 120

Winter: 90

Summer: 45

Average Weekly: 86

Weekly attendance per week since covid-19 restrictions

Online Services: 100 views estimated to be 120 people

Weekly Adult Education Programs – 24

Youth Programs –Active Sunday school program consisting of 18 children; a confirmation program could potentially startup with the bridge pastor.

We also coordinate an ecumenical Easter Sunrise service with other churches.

We have a very active Women's Guild that provides financial and mission support to the church.

We have an active music program including adult and children's choir and handbell choir. We also sponsor many community programs.

Members participate in NH Conference meetings and have had a member attend the last two General Synod in 2018 and 2020.

Attachments:

Mission Statement: See Attachment A-Bulletin Cover

Faith, Covenant and Character: See Attachment B-Chapter II of Constitution

Mission Report: See Attachment C

Compensation and Support

The following outlines compensation based on full-time:

Salary will be commensurate with experience, compensation includes Social Security offset, Pension Contribution at 14% of base salary plus parsonage value, UCC Health Insurance, Dental, Life and Disability Insurance. The parsonage is available for immediate occupancy if needed.

Vacation: One week/quarter

Criminal Background Check reimbursement, \$160

Travel: Mileage at IRS rate

Term of contract: Until a Settled Pastor is found or by mutual agreement to terminate the relationship.

Local Church Contact:

Tracy Emerick, Moderator
Call/Text: 603-498-6002
tracyemerick@gmail.com

Conference Contact:

Rev. Gordon Rankin
603-225-6647
grankin@nhcucc.org

Mail Ministerial Profiles:

Interim Search
First Congregational Church
127 Winnacunnet Road
Hampton, NH 03842