

Church Leadership Connection
The Call System for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Mif #: 20398.AB2

Ministry General Information

Ministry Number	20398
Ministry Name	MARS HILL
Mailing Address	205 N JACKSON ST ATHENS, TN 37303
Phone	(423) 745-1403
Fax	
E-Mail	mhpchurch@outlook.com
WWW Address	marshillpres.org
Ministry Size	101 - 250 members
Ethnic Composition	
	White 100%

Average Worship Attendance	50
Church School Attendance	20
Curriculum	David Cook - Prophets Faithful to God's Covenant - Studies in the Old Testament Uniform Series International Bible Lessons for Christian Teaching - A
Yoked	False
Presbytery	EAST TENNESSEE PRESBYTERY
Synod	SYNOD OF LIVING WATERS
Community Type	College
Ten-year trend statistics of this church/organization Show Statistics	

Information about the position

Position:	Solo Pastor
Experience Required:	2 to 5 Years
Specific Title:	Teaching Elder
Employment Status:	Full-time

Language Requirements:	
	English

Other Language:	
Statement of Faith Required:	True
Clergy Couples:	

Training/Certificate Requirements:	
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Other Training:	
Brief Church Mission Statement:	

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Mars Hill Presbyterian Church is committed to bring Glory to God by accepting people as they are, by loving them unconditionally through worship, education, ministry and involvement in our community. We will encourage them to become active in witness, caring in faith, equipping them to serve Christ in the world.

What is the congregation's or organization's vision for ministry:

Our church, formed in 1823 embraces our past & trusts in God's plan for the future. We hope to convey the gospel & love of Christ to all members, visitors, & community through music, word, & actions. It is important for our congregation to offer a welcoming environment for all people to worship & to know God. We are small, but we are mighty! We care for our elderly & homebound members while guiding & nurturing our young people. Our choir members have many talents use these gifts in worship. We are a strong & loving church which cares for each other. Our Circle ladies are very active & can make things happen in a heartbeat! Mars Hill strives to follow the example set by Jesus Christ while serving as a beacon of God's love in our community. Our worship program works well for our current members, but we face a challenge in attracting new & younger members. MHPC is committed to continue our long history of bringing Glory to God & Grace to all through community involvement & encouragement. We aspire to attract a more diverse congregation including young families to join our older members. We are very caring for each other in times of need, illness, & bereavement. Our pastor must be able to offer spiritual guidance and support during these times as well. Traditional worship is preferred by our congregation & slight variations must be offered with gentle guidance. We strive to encourage people to become active in witness, caring in faith & equipped to serve Christ in the world.

How do you feel called to reach out to address the emerging needs of your community or constituency:

We seek to provide an inviting place for people of all walks of life to grow with us, feel welcome to worship & experience God's presence. We are committed to grow programs designed for people with younger children to attend our church. We will increase our focus on former members & visitors who have stopped attending in hopes of bringing them back to our church. MHPC is dedicated to meeting the needs of our congregation & community through generous giving of time & money. As a congregation we help our community by: Grace & Mercy—serve meals to homeless; Coordinated Charities—collect food for those in need; Women's Circle —supports staff , shut-ins & local organizations; We encourage groups i.e. PILOT club, Boy/Girl Scouts, etc. to use our facility. Active groups are: 1. Men's Prayer Breakfast—a spiritual meeting led by members; 2. Our Choir—aka "the little choir that could"; small but stands tall with talent leading worship; 3. Youth Choir & Kinder Music Programs currently being developed; 4. High Nooners—church members meet every 3rd Tues of the month for fellowship & a meal together. MHPC Committees: 1. Mission and Outreach—supports several local, regional & world-wide needs; 2. Congregational Support—cares for all members with extra support for the needy; 3. Worship—schedules special services through the year; 4. Christian Education—works to increase Sunday school attendance; 5. Stewardship—makes good use of our funds; 6. Property—maintains church building & grounds

How will this position help you to reach your vision and mission goals:

Our new pastor will be a leader for this congregation & a representative of MHPC in the community. He/she will lead worship & fellowship events & help develop & grow our youth programs. To reach our vision & mission, our pastor should 1) Enrich & sustain the life of the church in worship; 2) Preach & teach biblically based sermons that relate to the present; 3) Embrace visitors & new members into the life of MHPC; 4) Foster openness to new ways of ministry & service especially to attract younger members; 5) Develop a culture of ongoing stewardship; 6) Support & participate in our existing programs ; 7) Nurture members during sickness, deaths, & difficult times. We see this role as the glue that brings together the activities our congregation currently undertakes. The pastor will lead & inspire our congregation by serving as a joyous leader who brings glory to God, helps the congregation grow their relationship with Jesus, & meets the needs of the congregation with a loving, accepting attitude & providing spiritual support. He/she must possess great Biblical knowledge, above average communication skills, & ability to teach, preach & motivate members & new Christians. Our congregation has a rich almost 200-year history & many traditions. As a shepherd of a diverse group of believers, our pastor will lead us with encouragement, prayer, communications, visitation, ministering, fellowship, & use of our gifts & resources to minister to the needs of the area & each other.

Provide a description of the characteristics needed by the person who is open to being called to this congregation and or organization:

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We need a pastor who can preach practical, relatable, Biblically based messages that are relevant to life today without being politically charged. He/she will be a unifier & will lead by example; be comfortable providing pastoral care to those who have joys, sorrows or other needs in hospital or at home. Our pastor will be joyful, enthusiastic, caring, loving, energetic & comfortable with ALL members. He/she should have strong leadership skills & must be of the utmost integrity, always reflecting good character & be approachable for members with personal problems & maintain confidences. We need a pastor with a strong desire to visit church members especially during illness & death. He/she should inspire & motivate the youth with a vision to get young couples/families to want to join our church. He/she should be supportive of the feelings & beliefs of a diverse congregation & able to work with different points of view. He/she should exhibit what a servant leader is – one whose love for the Lord is obvious & wants to share it with everyone he/she meets. Our pastor will be well-grounded in scripture & a prayerful student of the Word; who possesses a formal education in theology. We need a good listener & counselor with good communication skills. He/she should be able to preach & explain God's word clearly with organized, thought-provoking sermons that are meaningful to both young & old. He/she must be skilled in delivering sacraments & conducting baptisms, weddings, & funerals.

What specific tasks, assignments, and program areas will this person have responsibility?

Our leader will: 1) Lead Sunday morning worship service with caring & thoughtful sermons; 2) Be a strong Christian leader & teacher, good communicator, & smoothly lead communion, baptisms, weddings, funerals, & be involved in church groups; 3) Work with & support church staff & volunteers; 4) Visit members who are sick or unable to attend services; 5) Develop & implement a program to reach new people & bring them into our church; 6) Session Moderator & ex-officio of church committees; providing training for incoming Session members; 7) Participate in congregational & community events to represent MHPC; 8) Reach out to visitors & prospective new members successfully; 9) Know the Book of Order

Our pastor should work with the congregation to generate excitement about what is happening at MHPC, & promote growth & enhance the vision of our church to the community. Our new pastor will guide & strengthen our congregation as one body worshipping Christ together, nurturing discipleship & proclaiming the Gospel. He/she will serve as a shepherd to guide us through traditional worship & support our efforts of ministry & outreach to members & the community. He/she will encourage our spiritual growth through inspirational preaching & love us through hard & trying times & good times. Our shepherd will be filled with energy, encouragement, moral integrity, loving kindness & humility. Confidences must be strictly maintained. Ability to educate with Biblically grounded theology is expected.

Optional Links:

https://www.cityofathenstn.com/parks/regionalpark.html	https://www.athensartscouncil.org
https://www.cityofathenstn.trail/eureka	https://www.athensmcmnymca.org
https://www.livingheritagemuseum.org	https://www.fisherlibrary.org
https://www.tennesseeoverhill.com	https://www.tnwesleyan.edu/
https://www.athenscityschools.net	https://www.mcminn.k12.tn.us/

Leadership Competencies:

Compassionate

Preaching and Worship Leadership

Spiritual Maturity

Communicator

Change Agent

Task Manager

Strategy and Vision

Collaboration

Interpersonal Engagement

Motivator

Compensation and Housing: Cost of Living Calculator

Minimum Effective Salary: \$58,000

Housing Type: Housing Allowance

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References:				
Name	Address	Phone Numbers	Relation	Email
Ann S Davis	404 Gettys Lane, Athens, TN 37303	(423) 462-1038 (cell)	Former Mayor/Exec Dir McMinn Museum	annscottdavis@bellsouth.net
Rev. Dan McMillian	134 County Road 444, Athens, TN 37303	(423) 252-7834	Retired Pres Minister who attends Mars Hill	ltcolmc@gmail.com
Lauren Brown	1 Walcon Lane, Athens, TN 37303	423-506-6823	Executive Director of Athens Arts Council	director@athensartscouncil.org

Has the Pastor Nominating Committee and Search committee affirmed its intention to follow the Form Of Government in this regard?

Yes

Version Track Info: This MIF was last updated on 10/09/2022

Self-referral Contact Information

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