

Upper Ten Mile Presbyterian Church

25 Church Lane

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Position Summary:

Upper Ten Mile Presbyterian Church seeks a pastor or a Commissioned Ruling Elder to serve approximately 20 – 25 hours per week, providing Bible based spiritual leadership for our church as we recover from the unexpected loss of our previous pastor.

Duties will include:

- Leading Sunday Worship services and providing pastoral leadership
- Moderating session and congregational meetings
- Visiting those who are ill and shut-ins, if requested
- Officiating the sacraments of Holy Communion and Baptism
- Officiating weddings and funerals as needed
- Providing overall leadership for organizations of the church
- Leading our church toward a renewed vision for the future

Upper Ten Mile Presbyterian Church offers a competitive salary, with PC(USA) Board of Pensions benefits.

Church Description:

The Upper Ten Mile Presbyterian Church was founded in 1781, and has provided spiritual leadership to the community from that time to the present. We are a small rural church that believes in the truth and teachings of the Bible as given to us by God. We are located approximately twenty minutes south of Washington, Pa. on State Route 18, and are thirty minutes east of Wheeling, W.Va., and forty-five minutes south of Pittsburgh, Pa.

For many years, from the 1950's through the late 1990's, we were blessed with a thriving Sunday school organization that performed community work, staged many holiday productions and plays, and enjoyed gathering for parties and celebrations. Each year during that time we also conducted a Vacation Bible school program for a week during the summer. At present the Sunday school for young people is essentially non-existent, occasionally consisting of two young children under the age of six. We would hope to reverse this downward trend of our youth Sunday school department. We do have a very significant adult Sunday school class with an average attendance of approximately eighteen people.

We are a church noted for mission work and helping those affected by disasters throughout the country. Each spring we sponsor a Lenten fish fry from Ash Wednesday through Good Friday, to help fund the mission work. In 2019 we were able to sell 9,714 fish sandwiches and realized \$43,000 in net proceeds. All told, since our fish fries began in 2005, we have sold 118,274 fish sandwiches and raised \$358,000 for Christ's mission. Proceeds have been used to help those in areas of disaster relief, including hurricane and flood relief throughout the United States. In addition to this, the community food pantry is also conducted out of our church with recipients receiving pantry items on the first Saturday of each month. We would hope to continue this mission work with more focus on mission work in our local and surrounding communities.

We are a welcoming and close-knit church, willing to adapt to many situations while still retaining a strong connection to our past. We share concerns for the health and welfare of each other and those in our immediate community. In the surrounding area there are other small rural churches each serving their immediate community, the closest being about three miles away. At present there are 109 members listed on our roll, and we have an average attendance of approximately 55 people per week.

Our congregation would be described as an older congregation filled with a majority of senior citizens. We celebrate Holy Communion on a quarterly basis, and we always have a well-attended Christmas Eve Candlelight service. Our Easter Sunrise service is held in conjunction with two of our closest local churches, and is also well attended.

We are a congregation in the process of healing from the unexpected loss of our former pastor of 16 years. He was taken from us by a tragic accident which shocked the entire community, and in spite of this we have managed to stay strong and focused.

Mission Statement:

It is our goal at the Upper Ten Mile Presbyterian Church to be disciples of Christ, following the example set by our Savior Jesus. We believe that our purpose is to love God and fellow humanity in like fashion. In so doing we serve our Lord as we serve others, lovingly preaching, teaching, witnessing, supporting, comforting and guiding.

Desired Characteristics of Candidate:

We are searching for a Christ-centered individual committed to a Bible based teaching style. The ideal candidate will be friendly and welcoming, with a desire to become part of our church family. We do not expect the candidate to bear the total burden for our church, but to help us to use our gifts and talents so that, by working through together, we may find ways to share Christ's love and teachings throughout our community. We desire a candidate who is comfortable with visitation, pastoral care and leading us spiritually down life's many roads. We are a church in the process of healing from a loss and would like a pastor with their own individual style to lead us into the future.

We will welcome all candidates, be they Commissioned Ruling Elders, seminary graduates or clergy. We were served for the past 16 years by a Commissioned Ruling Elder and were all touched deeply with his love and teaching of the Word.