

POSITION DESCRIPTION MID-KENTUCKY PRESBYTERY

TITLE: General Presbyter

HOURS: Full-Time

CALL TERM: 5 Years (renewable)

ACCOUNTABILITY: The general presbyter is accountable to the presbytery through the Personnel Committee.

EVALUATION: The Personnel Committee of Mid-Kentucky reviews this position annually with a comprehensive review beginning no later than June 15 of the fourth year of service.

PURPOSE: Mid-Kentucky Presbytery Vision Statement: *Spiritual leaders empowering life-giving congregations for the transformation of the world by faith in God through Jesus Christ.*

It is our hope that the General Presbyter will be both shepherd and visionary, providing care and support for congregations and leaders of the presbytery while with them discerning and responding to God's call for the uniquely gifted Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky in these changing times and context.

AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY:

Pastoral Care

- Provide a pastoral presence for congregations and for teaching elders, fostering an environment where all may grow in their own spiritual journeys.
- Encourage and engage new and existing members of presbytery. Welcome new teaching elders into the life of the presbytery and support ruling elders who are newly elected to presbytery leadership.
- Provide nurture, support, and community building for those serving in validated ministries.
- Ensure the presbytery offers pastoral, reliable, and fair processes of support during times of crisis, conflict, and transition.

Vision and Strategy

- Work with Presbytery Staff, Commissions and Committees to establish a clear, achievable, and compelling vision and strategy for the Mid Kentucky Presbytery.
- Help the presbytery gain the intercultural competencies and interfaith sensibilities needed to be the church in a diverse society.
- Foster an environment that encourages and acknowledges innovation in congregations and in the presbytery and in ecumenical, interfaith and community partnerships.

- Facilitate partnerships between congregations, between congregations and the presbytery, and between congregations and potential ecumenical and interfaith partners.

Leadership Support

- Build relationships with congregations that enhance awareness of congregational life and fully utilize the gifts of teaching and ruling elders.
- Serve as a resource as needed or identified for presbytery commissions and committees, teaching and ruling elders, and congregations.
- Create and promote opportunities for leader development within the presbytery.
- Provide training opportunities and share in best practices for teaching and ruling elders, and congregations.

Connecting

- Interpret the presbytery's mission and ministries to congregations and share knowledge of the work of the General Assembly and synod.
- Engage in dialogue with ecumenical and interfaith partners and with other organizations within the bounds of the presbytery that connect with Mid-Kentucky's mission and ministries including the Kentucky Council of Churches.
- Attend presbytery commissions, committees as assigned; network and relate to other presbytery entities upon request of the entities.
- Collaborate with the synod, general assembly agencies and entities, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, other ecumenical and interfaith bodies, and organizations in covenant relationship with the presbytery (ex. Presbyterian Homes and Services, Bellewood and Brooklawn.)

Administration

- Maintain and oversee the function of the presbytery office including finances.
- Function as head of staff and collegially supervise staff.
- Foster a staff team dedicated to serving congregations and common mission.
- Provide or ensure staff support to the presbytery's committees and commissions, and elected leaders.
- Collaborate closely with the moderator of the presbytery.

PERSONAL QUALITIES AND SKILLS

- Must be a teaching elder or ruling elder in the PC(USA).
- Must have an undergraduate college degree; prefer a graduate degree in a field related to the practice of ministry.
- Prefer experience in mid-council ministry.
- Prefer training and experience in transitional ministry and in conflict management
- Must exhibit knowledge of and commitment to the Reformed tradition, and doctrine and polity of the PC(USA).
- Prefer demonstrated experience in adaptive organizational leadership.
- Must maintain a commitment to equity, inclusiveness, and diversity.
- Must recognize, nurture, and facilitate the gifts for the ministry of others.
- Must build trust and transparent communication.
- Must demonstrate basic knowledge of information technology and financial management.
- Must have multi-cultural experience.
- Must exhibit a good sense of humor.

Ministry Context

The Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky is comprised of 45 congregations, three new worshiping communities (Goodness Grows, Spirit of Sophia, Preston Highway), and Camp Cedar Ridge. Three-quarters of the presbytery's congregations cannot afford called and installed pastoral leadership. Many of the presbytery's minister members serve in validated ministries, especially chaplaincy. The presbytery includes three sizable cities – Louisville, Frankfort (the state capital), and Elizabethtown. Roughly one-third of the presbytery's congregations are in or near one of those cities, with the remainder in either rural or small-town settings. The presbytery is also home to the several of the General Assembly agencies and the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Also within the bounds of the presbytery is the University of Louisville, where the presbytery maintains a campus ministry (UKirk). For more information visit the presbytery's website: www.midkentuckypresbytery.org.