Westminster Presbyterian Church
1601 Park Street,
Syracuse, NY 13208

Presbytery: Cayuga-Syracuse
Telephone: (315) 471-1587
Fax: (315) 471-8250
Website: www.wpcsyracuse.vzwebsites.com
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/pages/Westminster-Presbyterian-Church-Syracuse/115319598486852
Email: wpcsyracuse@verizon.net

Pulpit Committee Contact Person:
Bonnie Fuller

General Church Information:
We are an urban church with a solo pastor position. Staff includes a part-time secretary, maintenance person and organist. There are presently 67 members on our rolls with 28 typically in worship and 5 in church school. Our congregation is primarily comprised of senior citizens. We have a very active food pantry that serves between 40 – 60 families twice a month. There is a weekly Bible Study that meets at noon on Tuesdays which is exploring the women of the Bible. We also have a monthly Bible study that meets on a Sunday morning. We have a very active group of Deacons.

Pastor Desired Criteria:
We are looking for a young, energetic person who takes the call of Jesus to be a “Fisher of People” seriously. We want someone who is called and willing to go out of the church building and make connections in the community around the church. Our congregation is over 200 years old. Over the years, the church has had many ups and downs but with God’s help we have prevailed. We feel that God wants us to continue in this place and make it a truly community church once again. We are a church that is ready and willing to grow and change to be equipped for moving into the future. We need a leader who can inspire and lead us on this journey. This would not be a job for the faint at heart or heavily encumbered.

You must be a graduate of a Presbyterian, Methodist, Reformed Church in America, Lutheran or Church of Christ seminary and be ordained or a candidate for ordination. This will be a full-time Designated pastor position. We would want the pastor to live somewhere in the neighborhood surrounding the church.

Neighborhood information:
Westminster is located in a neighborhood that 50 years ago was primarily white, middle class and Roman Catholic with many more single family houses. Now the neighborhood is very ethnically mixed. Most of the houses have been divided into apartments and rooming houses. There are still some middle class families, but many of the people are working at minimum wage jobs or are on public assistance. We find that most of the people in our immediate area do not attend a church and have had no religious background in their lives.
Most people do speak English although we do have some Arab families moving into the area. There are several strip clubs in the immediate area of the church, one on the opposite corner. We have a Roman Catholic Church 1 block away and an evangelical church 2 blocks away. We share our building with an African-American evangelical church. We have had a weed and feed, Community Police Center 3 blocks from the church that has been there for about 20 years. We have a neighborhood watch group and an active TNT (Tomorrow’s Neighborhoods Today) group that meet at the police center.

**Congregational Priorities:**
We understand that one person cannot be and do everything. But, these are the most important facets of ministry we are seeking in a pastor. We need to do the Lord’s work and build his church. If we focus on these, we believe everything else will fall into place.

- **Proclamation of the Word:** The word of God is preached with urgency and conviction, bringing it to bear on changing needs of individuals, the community, and the world.
- **Spiritual Development of Members:** Pastor shares members’ struggles regarding the Christian faith, with opportunity provided for individuals and groups to reflect on beliefs, concerns, doubts regarding Christian understanding of the spiritual dimensions of life.
- **Evangelism:** Pastor and congregation share faith in Christ as personal Savior in total lifestyle: seek to lead others within and outside the Church to accept Jesus Christ: congregation is informed, trained, helped to establish effective evangelism programs for the church.
- **Work with Youth:** Comfortable and experienced working with youth. We feel that we must focus on the youth to get them and their families to hear and receive the word. Musical skills would be a real plus.

**If you are interested in applying for this position:**
Send a copy of your resume (website address if applicable) and a video tape (YouTube information if applicable) of yourself leading worship to Bonnie Fuller in care of the church office. Include your compensation requirements as well.

We will send you a copy of our 200th year Celebration booklet (2010) and a copy of our 2010 Annual Report which has our statistics and financial information in it.

You will find this position to be a real challenge but you will also reap great rewards working with people who really care and want you to succeed. Thank you for your interest. May God bless you in your search and calling.
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Jane Sardella, Clerk of Session

Wednesday, March 02, 2011

Dear Placement Office;

Enclosed you will find an updated job description for a designated pastoral position at Westminster Presbyterian Church. There is a correction to the criteria, we are seeking someone who is a graduate of a Presbyterian, Methodist, Reformed Church in America, Lutheran or Church of Christ seminary. We ask that you post this job announcement so your graduating students may see it.

If you have any questions about the position, please contact Bonnie Fuller at 315.471.1587. If you would like this posting in digital form, please contact myself, Kathy, at wpcsyracuse@verizon.net and I can send it to you.

We appreciate your help in finding a new pastor and may God bless all your endeavors.

Sincerely,

Kathy Przytula
secretary