



Ministry General Information

Ministry Name Bedford Presbyterian Church	Presbytery The Peaks	Synod Mid-Atlantic
Email Paul.van.dyke.jr@gmail.com	Preferred Phone 5406761651	Website Address bedfordpresbyva.org
Mailing Address 105 W Main St, Bedford, VA 24523	Alternate Phone/Email	Community Type Town
Congregation or Organization Size Under 100 members	Curriculum We are actively planning on restarting adult Bible study. Weekly "Something More" study had been led by Pastor Salley and focused on sermon. Youth and several members active in Bedford Ecumenical Youth Group.	Average Worship Attendance 50
Church School Attendance		
Intercultural Composition White: 99%, Multiracial: 1%		

Information about the Position

Position Requirements

Position Type(s)

Solo Pastor: Installed

Language Requirements

English

Experience Required

No Experience/First Ordained Call

Statement of Faith required?

Yes

Specify Title / PT Work Hours (if applicable)

Pastor

Are you open to a clergy couple?

Yes

Employment Status

Full-time

Ministry Requirements

Church Mission/Vision Statement

Bedford Presbyterian is a Biblically and Prayerfully Guided Christian Family of Disciples, Loving God and Serving Others

- We are a Christian Family of Christ's Disciples. We belong to the family of God. We are the brothers and sisters of the Lord Jesus Christ. We are His followers, disciples who are both learning and putting into practice what He has taught us. We seek to be a reflection of His life and ministry as we live out our lives each and every day (1 John 3:1 and Ephesians 4:11-13).
- We are a Biblically and Prayerfully guided Christian Family. We believe that the Bible is God's inspired Word and our only authoritative guide for knowing how to live the Christian way of life. We additionally possess a prayerful desire to discern and pursue the Lord's leadership through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit (2 Timothy 3:16 and 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

- We are a Christian Family Loving God and Serving Others. We express our love for God through worship which encompasses both our weekly gatherings as a Christian family and our individual lives through personal devotion to Christ. We also love God by serving others. This includes our church's membership, our friends and family, those who live around us, and the larger body of humanity in the world (Matthew 22:37-40 and 1 John 3:16-17).

Tasks, expectations, duties, supervision, assignments, and responsibilities for the position

Worship: The pastor is responsible for the weekly proclamation of God's Word & administration of the sacraments.

Discipleship: In cooperation with the Session, the pastor is responsible to promote Christian education in the church preaching, teaching and interpretation of Scripture.

Pastoral care: With elders/deacons, the pastor should be available to the congregation in times of rejoicing, illness, bereavement, and emergencies.

Mission/Evangelism: the pastor should support the current mission activities of the church & community.

Administration: Oversees staff. Ensures good and efficient operations including recordkeeping.

Characteristics / qualifications needed:

- Called by God to pastoral ministry; committed to a life guided by prayer and the scriptures
- Outgoing, works to grow the church & build relationships in the community
- Proponent of the Reformed faith and Presbyterian theology
- Flexible / open to new ideas and suggestions
- Humility and a willingness to be coached when needed
- Works with Minister of Music blending traditional and informal worship
- Honest and forthright
- Good listening skills; effective communicator; articulate speaker

- Leadership skills; delegation of responsibility & good time management
- Accountable to Session in matters pertaining to the representation of the church in the community
- Fosters dynamic prayer ministry

Compensation & Housing

Minimum Effective Salary

46272

Housing Type

Housing allowance

MDP - Narratives

How would you describe the congregation's/organization's specific vision for ministry? How will this vision impact the community? Is the congregation part of a ministry vision or program?

BPC has been an anchor in the community for 180 years. Its primary mission has been and is to worship God, grow disciples, and spread the Word. The church is a safe and friendly place for all people to feel welcome. It has strived to meet needs not only within the church, but in the community. Building on that foundation, the present congregation has a heart to grow and thrive in the 21st century, to increase its depth of faith, and reach out to those in need.

Our vision for a pastor is someone who knows the bible well and can deliver heartfelt sermons, someone who is charismatic and friendly. As this pastor draws the congregation closer in their relationship with God, we foresee that the church will grow and impact the community.

What is the nature and context of the community in which your congregation lives out its mission/vision? How will you address the emerging needs that are impacting your community?

BPC is located in the center of the Town of Bedford, Va. The building itself is original (1844) with a towering spire, beautiful pews and carpets, and plenty of classrooms and meeting rooms. The lovely 11 rank pipe organ is used, with other instruments, to provide a blended worship experience.

The town and county contain a variety of income levels. The area is also aging. Almost all who have joined the church in the last ten years have been recent retirees who have moved here. We do, however, still have two families with children. We perceive an opportunity to 'move younger', while staying consistent with our traditional facility's venue.

The church leads or is involved in the following: scouting, Bedford Christian Ministries, the Shepherd's Table, the free Clinic, a warming (and cooling) shelter, the ecumenical youth ministry, homeschool children's choir and a cancer support group. Some of these meet in our Community Center.

We host various events that are open to the public including our annual Christmas musical, which we call Abendmusik, and various concerts and dramatic events.

We also tithe operational income to support a missionary in Honduras and other local missions. We have always addressed new situations that come up in our community or that develop in our world from giving to Afghan refugees to sending money to places that have been hit by a natural disaster. Our congregation decides what our community needs and then we act to give them the appropriate resources.

How will this call help complement the responsibilities of other staff/volunteer positions, and the life of the congregation/organization, so that you may accomplish your short and long-term goals for ministry?

As solo pastor, the minister is the leader of the staff spiritually, administratively, and emotionally. The need is primarily for outreach and worship leadership, and secondarily for overall leadership / general management. Our Minister of Music is a gifted musician, singer, and an ordained minister. He and his wife are also gifted in prayer ministry. Our Administrative Assistant is well established in her position and needs

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occasional direction. The Sexton is diligent in his duties. Our five Deacons provide excellent pastoral care, but the congregation still values visits from the minister. Our ecumenical youth program has good leadership and is going well, but we hope the new pastor will help them learn how to attract new members.

The pastor needs to help the congregation discern and utilize their talents. Energy and the ability to energize others is an important consideration. He should also be involved in the prayer ministry of the church.

Provide a description of the skills, gifts and training the person you hope will become a part of your ministry must have, to lead the congregation towards the vision and mission established.

Our congregation believes in the Bible... all of it. Our new pastor needs to preach from the Bible. He needs to be a person who seeks God. He needs to be outgoing and engaging, a person people like to be with. He should help our congregation grow spiritually. If social issues are addressed, it is important that the pastor do so from a biblical standpoint.

The new pastor should have experience with growing churches, and bring new ideas into Bedford Presbyterian Church. In this regard, he should be able to relate to all ages. Programs for the youth, young married, and the widowed are excellent for personal growth, and could be attractive both to members and to those seeking a church. Being able to relate to the older members of the congregation and help with the physical and mental decline inherent in that group is essential. This could include grief counseling, hospital visits, presiding over funerals and the like. Improving our outreach to new members of any age, be they new residents or otherwise, is critical.

What areas of ministry do you expect the person called to be responsible for? Share specific tasks, assignments, and programs.

The key responsibility is leading the congregation in worship. Second in importance would be leading the staff through administration and moderating the Session, while participating in committee meetings as

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appropriate. The new minister needs to chart out his/her course with regard to Christian Education e.g. leading weekly bible study, youth ministry, teaching confirmation classes, conducting new member training, etc.

It is expected that the minister will be active in the Bedford Ministerial Association, perhaps, in time, leading it. The minister should be mindful of publicity opportunities for the church such as newspaper articles, revivals, and other outreach opportunities.

A yearly Session retreat and quarterly deacons' meetings are expected. The church holds communion monthly, and the minister, along with deacons and elders, go outbound to administer communion to the shut-ins at home or in various senior facilities in the area. The shut-ins should also be visited periodically. Baptisms, weddings, and funerals conducted as required. All services so conducted need to be accurately captured and recorded in the church register.

Optional Links

Bedford Presbyterian
Church - Home

Page - <https://www.bedfordpresbyva.org>

Facebook - Church's Facebook

Page - <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=bedford%20presbyterian%20church%20va>

References

Reference #1

Carl Utley
General Presbyter

Reference #2

Gail St.Clair
Friend of the Church

Reference #3

Rev. Loren Tate
Mitchell

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