

United Church of Moscow, Moscow Idaho – Pastor Search 2025

Brief Job Description

Please email: unitedchurch2024@gmail.com for the full job description

About the Church

The United Church of Moscow is a welcoming and affirming progressive faith community, emphasizing human rights, social justice, compassion, wonder, and caring for the earth and each other. We believe that science and faith are complimentary. The name “United” comes from combining two churches, one, Disciples of Christ (Northern Lights Region) and the other, American Baptist (Evergreen Region). Both original churches were established nearly 150 years ago and combined in 1969.

About the Ministry

The ministry is one of faith into action in support of human rights, social justice, and all who are in need. The church and its members actively support programs for people experiencing housing insecurity (Family Promise, Habitat for Humanity, and Sojourner’s Alliance), food insecurity (local food banks), and the college interdenominational campus ministry (The Center at the University of Idaho).

The Ideal Candidate

The ideal candidate will respect the diverse faith traditions which make up our congregation, community, and world. They will be comfortable with uncertainty and willing to ask and explore questions regarding faith, while honoring the teachings of Jesus, values, and traditions our congregation holds dear.

Additional qualities in the person for the pastoral position include having a vision for building the congregation, innovative ideas for outreach, and leadership skills to harness the energy of the congregation to implement change. The ideal candidate will embrace a collaborative approach with church leadership.

Key Responsibilities

Church Growth – build sustainability through recruitment of new members. Create a system to adapt and thrive as a faith community.

Worship and Spiritual Growth – responsible for weekly preaching and the design of worship experiences, including identifying music selections and musicians.

Visitation and Counseling – work for the spiritual and numerical growth of all sectors of the congregation.

Educational Leadership – design meaningful educational experiences (faith exploration) and occasional bible study for the community congregation.

Administration – support all committees and boards to the church and attend regularly scheduled meetings of such. Provide oversight of all church employees. Lead public relations activities. Maintain relations with partnering organizations.

Qualifications

Required:

- Seminary Graduation
- Ordained Minister or ability to become ordained within 6 months

Preferred:

- Additional formal religious education
- Appropriate experience in religious leadership and practical ministry experience

About the Community

Moscow, Idaho is a delightful university city located in the Palouse Prairie foothills of the Northern Rocky Mountains and along the border with Washington state. It is home to more than 26,000 residents. The city of Moscow is known as the “Heart of the Arts”, hosting annual events such as The Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival, Festival Dance, Renaissance Fair, Rendezvous in the Park, and ArtWalk. The historic church is located in the vibrant downtown area with locally owned shops, boutiques, restaurants, and an award-winning Saturday farmers market. The community and United Church of Moscow congregation includes members from the adjacent Pullman, WA with Washington State University community of an additional 32,000 residents located 8 miles to the west.

Moscow provides access to a beautiful region grading from open grasslands on the Palouse Prairie to forested mountains to the east, bisected by major rivers (Snake, Clearwater and Salmon rivers), nearby lakes (Coeur d'Alene, Chatcolet and Pen d'Oreille), enormous national forests and the largest wilderness area in the lower 48 states (River of No Return). Spokane, WA with big-city shopping, renowned opera and symphony, regularly visited by the largest theatre and performance groups is a short 1.5-hr drive to the north.