

Church Leadership Connection
The Call System for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Mif #: 03817.ADO

Ministry General Information

Ministry Number	03817
Ministry Name	Newton Presbyterian Church
Mailing Address	75 Vernon St Newton , MA 02458-2027
Phone	617-332-9255
Fax	617-332-9255
E-Mail	newtonpresbyterian@gmail.com
WWW Address	www.newtonpresbyterianchurch.org
Ministry Size	Under 100 members

Ethnic Composition	
	Black or African American (African Native, Caribbean) 27%
	Hispanic Latino/Latina, Spanish 4%
	White 69%

Average Worship Attendance	40
Church School Attendance	6
Curriculum	Frolic, by Sparkhouse
Yoked	False
Presbytery	Boston
Synod	SYNOD OF THE NORTHEAST
Community Type	Suburban

Ten-year trend statistics of this church/organization [Show Statistics](#)

Information about the position

Position:	Pastor (Other Temporary i.e. Supply, Student)
Experience Required:	2 to 5 Years
Specific Title:	Supply
Employment Status:	Part-time

Language Requirements:	
	English

Other Language:	
Statement of Faith Required:	True
Clergy Couples:	True

Training/Certificate Requirements:

Other Training:	
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Brief Church Mission Statement:	
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Living the Truth of Jesus Christ

What is the congregation's or organization's vision for ministry:

NPC is marked by clear Biblical teaching, love of its Presbyterian heritage, and social justice ministry that seeks to carry the love of Christ to all people. We believe and support the PC(USA)'s beliefs as communicated in the Book of Confessions, which guide us in nurturing our diverse and welcoming community, and worshiping with theologically sound services.

We are a growing community with a will to respond to God's grace, and serve God and our neighbors. We are a geographically, racially, and culturally diverse group, and we hope to continue building on our diversity and welcoming all.

Our services include two choirs, one traditional and one started by our African members providing music from their homelands, and a wonderful organist/pianist. Sunday school for preschool/elementary aged children has been growing as new families attend NPC, and members welcome new babies. Our Women's Life Group meets weekly, studying the Bible and discussing women's issues, including women from outside our congregation.

In January 2017, there was a schism at NPC related to the PC(USA)'s support of LGBTQ+ Christian marriages and ordination. The Presbytery of Boston (POB) appointed an Administrative Commission, and a lengthy legal process ensued. In February 2018 the court ruled in NPC's favor, and in June 2018 all legal claims were settled, with NPC and the POB established as the legal owners of all assets. Having been through this, our current congregation is both resilient and tenacious.

How do you feel called to reach out to address the emerging needs of your community or constituency:

While we are not a large congregation, our building is large. This requires a financial commitment and creative approaches. We have made many repairs and improvements, and are considering various income-producing ideas. We have been working with the City of Newton so that we can generate rental income and to hold more community events, which will allow us to serve our neighbors. Recent examples of reaching out are hosting a successful blood drive, a local family movie night, and a concert by local middle schools.

Newton is an affluent city, but we recognize that not everyone in our community has the same means. Currently, our mission goals are focused on local organizations. NPC supports a local center for the homeless with bags filled with comfort items, backpacks and winter wear. The Session, with congregational suggestions, quarterly selects a local organization to be the recipient of our "Change for Change" program, providing gifts to the homeless shelter, Woodbury Union Church in RI following their fire, and other organizations. Our Benevolent Fund provides those in need with some financial support. We continue a weekly food collection for the Newton Food Pantry.

We have run the Presbyterian Church Nursery School, which currently has about 40 students, for the past 37 years, serving members of the broader community. Our Women's Life Group includes those who do not attend our church. We participate in all PC(USA) church-wide offerings and our Presbytery's per capita.

How will this position help you to reach your vision and mission goals:

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We are looking for a pastor who will lead our church in worship and pastoral care, and in growing our congregation. In addition, the pastor will lead our Session as moderator and advisor.

Our congregation is a diverse and growing faith family, drawing closer to each other and developing a strong core. We look to make active our Mission Statement: "Living the Truth of Jesus Christ".

We are an active group, seeking to grow both spiritually and concretely. Over the last two years, we have had weddings, baptisms, new member classes and have welcomed 16 new members. We have a strong group of elders and deacons. Our deacons reflect the diversity of our multicultural congregation, and we intend to make our Session more representative of our membership in the next several months.

We have celebrated events with cookouts, cookie parties, women's teas, family movie night, blood drive, hosted POB meetings, and we engage in well attended weekly fellowship following worship services.

NPC elders, pastor, and other members are actively engaged in overseeing the nursery school, providing support to the co-directors.

Our vision is to grow in diversity in the broadest meaning of the word. Most recently, NPC joined the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, actively supporting the LGBTQ+ community.

Provide a description of the characteristics needed by the person who is open to being called to this congregation and or organization:

NPC seeks a pastor who will teach us to more closely live authentic Christian lives, both individually and corporately, who can: (a) challenge us to grow our faith; (b) provide compassionate leadership; (c) support the skills, passions, and needs of the congregation; and (d) help prioritize our efforts to extend the mission and vision of NPC into the future for both our congregation and the world. Priority characteristics include:

Theological/Spiritual Interpreter/Preaching and Worship Leader – Shepherd our diverse congregation: grow our faith by teaching effectively from God's word, guide our worship, and engage with our children and youth.

Communication – Actively engage with church members and the community, including other local clergy, city officials, and groups interested in renting and/or using our beautiful facilities.

Organizational Leadership/Strategy and Vision/Task Manager/Decision Making/ Collaboration/Culturally Proficient – Facilitate people working together, provide support to programs/initiatives already in place, delegate responsibility to others. Engage in and challenge our faith now while developing a vision for the future that is sensitive to and respectful of our diverse congregation.

Interpersonal Engagement/Bridge Builder/Flexibility – Engage with the congregation with genuine care and heartfelt warmth, adapt to a variety of changing conditions and unexpected obstacles. Connect with those with different cultures, worldviews, and theological positions.

What specific tasks, assignments, and program areas will this person have responsibility?

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1. Plan, lead worship, and preach at regular Sunday and other appropriate services and gatherings
2. Administer the sacraments as authorized by Session
3. Provide spiritual guidance and pastoral support to members of the congregation
4. Moderate Session and congregational meetings
5. Pray for the congregation and its members
6. Visit shut-ins and other members and prospective members as needed, with participation of the elders and deacons
7. Assist in office and clerical management, including the development of the weekly Sunday bulletin and other printed resources as needed, and contribute to the congregation's efforts to improve the utility and beauty of the property at 75 Vernon St.
8. Sit on the Board of our nursery school in an ex officio capacity
9. Work with committee liaisons and provide support to the programs of the congregation as requested
10. Officiate at weddings and funerals as appropriate
11. Lead new member classes and assist in leading confirmation classes
12. Assist Nominating Committee in its work in an ex officio capacity
13. Represent the church with Christ-like integrity in the POB, the community and in relationships with outside organization

Optional Links:

See our website: newtonpresbyterianchurch.org

Leadership Competencies:

Preaching and Worship Leadership

Communicator

Culturally Proficient

Task Manager

Decision Making

Strategy and Vision

Collaboration

Interpersonal Engagement

Bridge Builder

Personal Resilience

Compensation and Housing: Cost of Living Calculator

Minimum Effective Salary: \$26,456

Housing Type: Housing Allowance

References:

Name	Address	Phone Numbers	Relation	Email
TJ DeMarco	190 Glenwood Ave, Pawtucket, RI 02860	401-523-7417	Stated Clerk, Presbytery of Boston	statedclerk@presbyteryofbos ton.org

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Rev Dr R Ward Holder	369 High Street, Westwood MA 02090	781-888-1691	Temporary Stated Supply Pastor, Newton Presbyteria	wholder@anselm.edu
Sharon Wright	589 Fulton Street, Medford MA 02155	617-877-8942	Prior Chair of NPC Administrativ e Commission	sharonwright1@icloud.com

Has the Pastor Nominating Committee and Search committee affirmed its intention to follow the Form Of Government in this regard?

Yes

Version Track Info: This MIF was last updated on 07/09/2020

Self-referral Contact Information

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