**Valley Presbyterian Church**

**Brookfield, CT**

**Stated Supply Job Posting (7/14/20)**

Valley Presbyterian Church is a faithful community of believers seeking to do God’s will. We are guided by the teachings of Jesus Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit. During an interim period, as we prepare to initiate a pastoral search, we are looking for a part time stated supply pastor who will:

* plan and lead worship and preach at regular Sunday services (in collaboration with our music director)
* serve as head of staff (part time administrator and part time music director)
* moderate Session and congregational meetings
* attend Board of Deacon meetings
* provide pastoral care (to the sick and home-bound)
* officiate at weddings, funerals and baptisms
* work with committee chairs
* pray for the church.

We are presently seeking a half time pastor (20 hours per week) to be paid a minimum effective salary of $29,000 annually. Benefits will be provided through the Presbyterian Church USA Board of Pensions. The pastor will report directly to the Session of the Valley Presbyterian Church and through us to the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Southern New England.

At Valley, we value and welcome all. We draw strength from our diverse beliefs, backgrounds and experiences. We find great joy in our worship through the sharing of word, music and sacraments. Our worship services seek to connect people with God and one another in a warm, creative and engaging fashion. We are committed to educating and guiding our youth and offering opportunities for spiritual growth to all members. We have two adult lay led bible and lectionary classes and an active music ministry. We support mission programs locally and throughout the world. All this we do nurtured in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

During the past several years, the church has faced a number of challenges including issues with our building. In the spring of 2018, the building sustained significant damage as the result of a macroburst. During the same week, we had an oil spill due to a hole in one of our oil tanks. The damage to the building has been completely repaired. The consequences of the oil spill have been monitored by an administrative commission appointed by the Presbytery with the oversight of a licensed environmental professional. No remediation was recommended, although we are continuing to regularly monitor the soil and air quality both outside and inside the building. While building issues have been largely resolved, these events resulted in considerable stress. The Session is addressing the stress and dissension within the church family through work with a consultant and through scheduling of small group meetings to listen and respond to members’ concerns. Prior to the pandemic, Valley’s Session had committed to becoming a Matthew 25 church with a focus on building congregational vitality.

We are seeking a pastor who possesses strong communication skills and who is able to work well with a diverse group of approximately 125 members and provide stability as we determine next steps for us as a congregation. If you have a love of sharing Christ’s teachings, enjoy meeting with and providing comfort and care for people in all stages of life, and feel confident about leading a small church through a transition period, we would welcome the opportunity to share further details about the position with you and learn more about your unique qualifications.

Interested candidates should contact Session member Cheryl Freeston, at cheryl.freeston@gmail.com or by phone at 203-733-1757.