



FIRST METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF KANSAS

PASTORAL SEARCH PACKET



table of hope
Metropolitan Community Church

at this table
everyone is welcome



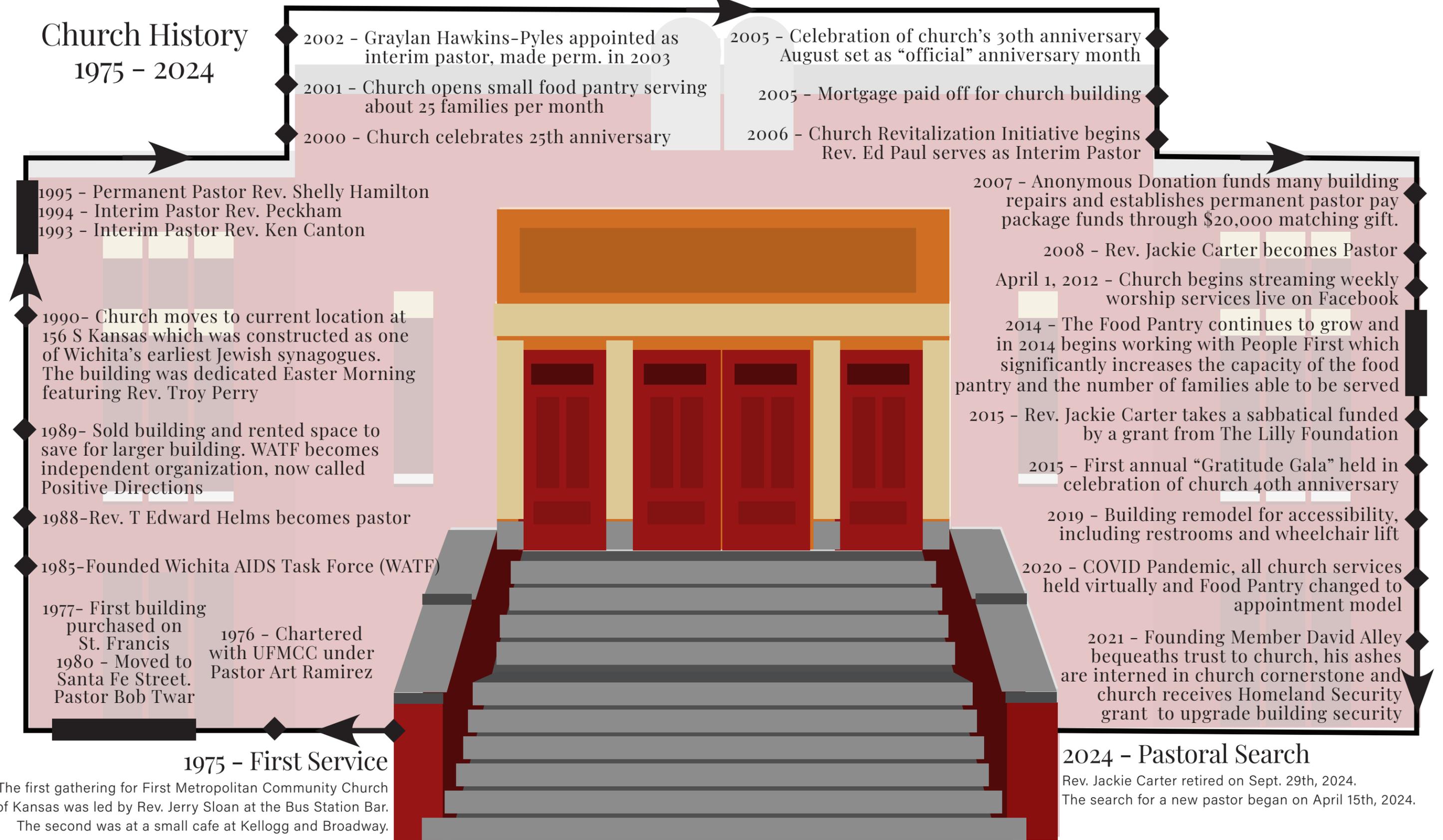
Thank you.

Thank you for considering Table of Hope MCC in Wichita, KS for your vocational ministry. Our church has over 50 years of history learning, growing, and sharing the love of the Creator. We are a diverse faith community with an open theology which welcomes any and all who seek to find sacred space with others. We believe that all individuals to find their own unique way to encounter the Divine and celebrate a God of many names. We welcome applications from all qualified individuals who share this view and feel called to join our family of faith.

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Church History 1975 - 2024



2002 - Graylan Hawkins-Pyles appointed as interim pastor, made perm. in 2003

2001 - Church opens small food pantry serving about 25 families per month

2000 - Church celebrates 25th anniversary

2005 - Celebration of church's 30th anniversary August set as "official" anniversary month

2005 - Mortgage paid off for church building

2006 - Church Revitalization Initiative begins Rev. Ed Paul serves as Interim Pastor

1995 - Permanent Pastor Rev. Shelly Hamilton

1994 - Interim Pastor Rev. Peckham

1993 - Interim Pastor Rev. Ken Canton

2007 - Anonymous Donation funds many building repairs and establishes permanent pastor pay package funds through \$20,000 matching gift.

1990- Church moves to current location at 156 S Kansas which was constructed as one of Wichita's earliest Jewish synagogues. The building was dedicated Easter Morning featuring Rev. Troy Perry

2008 - Rev. Jackie Carter becomes Pastor

April 1, 2012 - Church begins streaming weekly worship services live on Facebook

1989- Sold building and rented space to save for larger building. WATF becomes independent organization, now called Positive Directions

2014 - The Food Pantry continues to grow and in 2014 begins working with People First which significantly increases the capacity of the food pantry and the number of families able to be served

1988-Rev. T Edward Helms becomes pastor

2015 - Rev. Jackie Carter takes a sabbatical funded by a grant from The Lilly Foundation

1985-Founded Wichita AIDS Task Force (WATF)

2015 - First annual "Gratitude Gala" held in celebration of church 40th anniversary

1977- First building purchased on St. Francis

1980 - Moved to Santa Fe Street. Pastor Bob Twar

1976 - Chartered with UFMCC under Pastor Art Ramirez

2019 - Building remodel for accessibility, including restrooms and wheelchair lift

2020 - COVID Pandemic, all church services held virtually and Food Pantry changed to appointment model

2021 - Founding Member David Alley bequeaths trust to church, his ashes are interred in church cornerstone and church receives Homeland Security grant to upgrade building security

1975 - First Service

The first gathering for First Metropolitan Community Church of Kansas was led by Rev. Jerry Sloan at the Bus Station Bar. The second was at a small cafe at Kellogg and Broadway.

2024 - Pastoral Search

Rev. Jackie Carter retired on Sept. 29th, 2024. The search for a new pastor began on April 15th, 2024.

at this table
there's enough for everyone



Table of Hope Food Pantry

Table of Hope operates the second largest food pantry in the state. We began this ministry in 2001 as an outreach to our neighbors, with an outreach of about 2 to 5 families per week. Over time, this ministry has become the mission that unifies and attracts folks to this faith community. Currently, we serve 1200 people per week, which makes it our largest faith experience every week. Food is the main reason that people begin to come to this pantry, community and an unspoken yet observable faith is the reason they come back and often think of the pastor here as "their" pastor. We will work with the next pastor of the church to determine how they can contribute to the work of the food pantry and represent God's bountiful love for all.

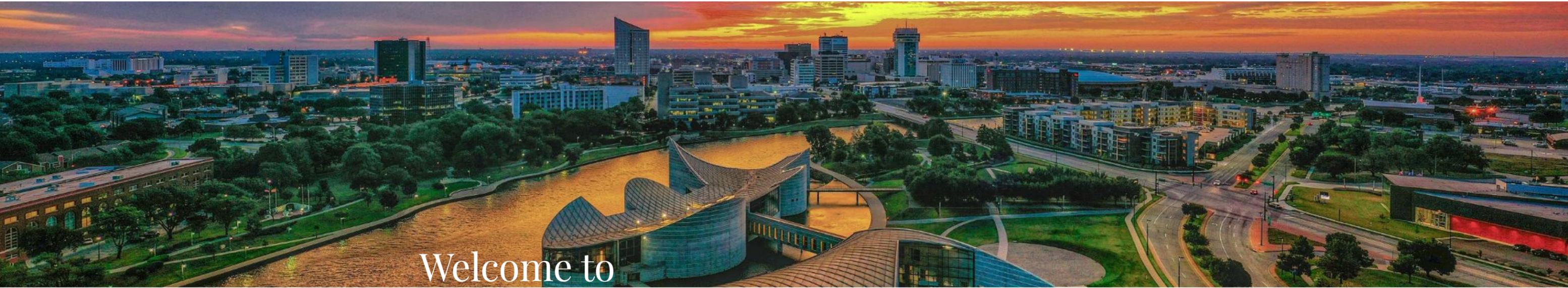
In 2023 the food pantry served:

**39,594 people
in 12,887 Families**

The pantry is staffed almost entirely by volunteers.

We partner with an organization which hires Developmentally Delayed adults who work with us Monday through Friday for several hours. We have many other volunteers that support this ministry in many ways. We have many community partners, in addition to the church, who either provide product or grant monies to ensure the continued success of this pantry.





Welcome to Wichita

Living in Wichita, KS

Nicknamed "The Air Capital of the World," Wichita is the largest city in Kansas, with a population of about 640,000 in the Wichita metropolitan area. Wichita offers all of the amenities of a big city with a small-town feel, boasting an average commute time of 18 minutes. Among Money Magazine's Top 10 Best Big Cities, Wichita was also rated the No. 1 city to live the good life economically by Forbes.

Housing, Utilities & Transportation

Wichita's housing expenses are 29% lower than the national average and the utility prices are 2% lower than the national average. Transportation expenses like bus fares and gas prices are 3% lower than the national average.

 MEDIAN HOME PRICE \$321,050	 MEDIAN RENT \$976.15 / month	 ENERGY BILL \$173.28 / month	 PHONE BILL \$186.42 / month	 GAS \$3.30 / gallon
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Food & Grocery

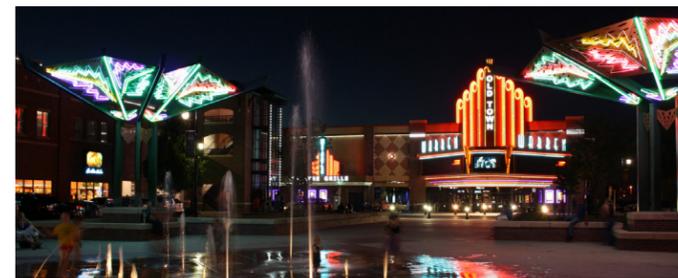
Wichita has grocery prices that are 1% higher than the national average.

 LOAF OF BREAD \$3.90	 GALLON OF MILK \$2.44	 CARTON OF EGGS \$2.26	 BUNCH OF BANANAS \$3.38	 HAMBURGER \$5.16
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Healthcare

Healthcare in Wichita is 7% lower than the national average.

 DOCTOR'S VISIT \$115.92	 DENTIST VISIT \$100.01	 OPTOMETRIST VISIT \$109.19	 RX DRUG \$427.09	 VETERINARY VISIT \$59.50
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City Attractions

- Botanica Gardens
- Sedgwick County Zoo
- Keeper of the Plains
- Old Cowtown Museum
- Museum of World Treasures
- Old Town
- Exploration Place
- Wichita Art Museum
- Frank Lloyd Wright's Allen House
- Great Plains Nature Trail
- Mid-America All-Indian Museum
- Music Theater of Wichita
- Roxy's Downtown
- Crown Uptown Theater
- Wichita River Festival
- Juneteenth Celebration
- Open Streets Neighborhood Celebrations

There is no shortage of things to do. Wichitans take advantage of all the outdoors has to offer as well as the outstanding attractions that enhance the city's quality of life. Wichita is home to a world-class zoo and a wealth of museums, theaters and other attractions for all ages.

Old Town is one of Wichita's premier entertainment districts with distinctive restaurants, live concerts, nightclubs, specialty shops, and a Saturday farmer's market. Wichita's continued commitment to quality of life is illustrated by development projects such as WaterWalk and Waterfront, the Intrust Bank Arena, and a new baseball stadium.

One benefit of living in Wichita is the cost of living, which is below the national median. Housing prices and rental rates are inexpensive compared to what you'd find in places on the East or West Coast. Residents tend to spend about the same on daily expenses like groceries and utilities as the average American.



The Keeper of the Plains by Blackbear Bosin



The Table of Hope Praise Team

At this table everyone is seen



Brad Thomison serves as Director of Music and Technology



Church & Food Pantry Staff

The church staff is led by the Pastor who also serves as the personnel director and supervisor of all staff. The congregation approves special line-item funding for a Director of Music, Director of Technology, Accompanist, Drummer, and an office support worker at their annual meeting. Additional funds are budgeted for use to pay other musicians, singers, and tech operators for worship services and special events.

The Food Pantry employs additional coordinators and partners with People First, an organization which employs adults with developmental disabilities. The Food Pantry also relies on numerous volunteers to operate throughout the year.



Table of Hope MCC is current on its tithing obligations to the UFMCC Denomination.
The planned annual general fund budget for 2024 is \$221,000

Table of Hope MCC has owned its building debt-free since 2015.
The building was upgraded to be fully ADA accessible in 2019



The David Alley Charitable Trust

David Alley was a founding member of the church and attended consistently until he entered long term care in March 2020 at the very beginning of COVID. David had been a tool and die maker at Boeing Wichita for about 35 years at the time of his retirement. David gave regularly and even provided a large sum of money when we were in danger of losing the building many years ago. David was committed to the continuation of this Church well into the future and, upon his death in August 2021, his estate provided for both an endowment for the Church and a Charitable Trust for the financial security of the Church. Only the income from these accounts are used by the Church to provide continuity and, to some extent, to fund the operation of the food pantry and purchase food for distribution. If used appropriately, David's legacy will provide financial stability for the church for many years to come. David had no family so, in deference to his commitment to the Church, the urn containing his ashes was placed in the hollowed out cornerstone of the building at the conclusion of his Memorial Service.



What we are looking for:

- ◆ Completion or in-progress professional religious education with preference for Master of Divinity.
- ◆ Ordained or eligible for ordination in the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches.
- ◆ Open and inclusive theology which invites individuals from all (or no) faith traditions to gather as a community in worship and service.
- ◆ An individual willing and prepared to be the primary pastoral care provider for not only our church membership, but also all of Wichita and the region's LGBTQ+ community.
- ◆ Participation and representation of our faith community and the greater Wichita LGBTQ+ community at events, meetings, and all places where our voices must be heard. This will include working with community organizations, with Wichita Police Department, schools, and other faith communities.
- ◆ Support and participation at the food pantry.
- ◆ Available to start on September 15th, 2024.

Technically Speaking:

Excerpts from the FMCC of Kansas Bylaws: The Pastor is the UFMCC clergy person with a license to practice who has been called by God and elected by the church to be responsible for the duties of teacher, preacher, and spiritual leader until such time that the relationship is terminated. The Pastor shall also fulfill such other roles and responsibilities as are stated in the UFMCC Bylaws and the policies of the church.

The Pastor shall have authority for ordering all worship services of the church; determining when other worship services will be held, subject to approval of the Board of Directors; appointing compensated and uncompensated church staff, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors; and determining compensation, vacation periods, and titles of office of the church staff, subject to approval of the Board of Directors. The Pastor shall serve as a voting member of the Board of Directors, personnel director, and as the primary spokesperson of the church to the community. The Pastor may delegate such duties as seem wise.

Invitation To Apply

If you feel called to join our community of faith, please send your resume and responses to the questions below via email to tableofhopetech@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

What is something you are especially proud of in your pastoral career?

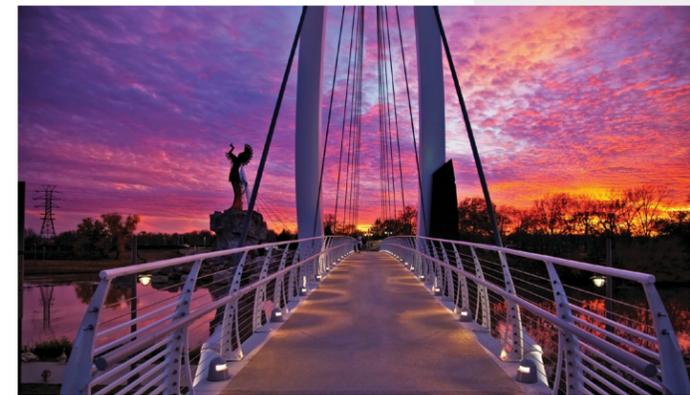
How do you prioritize and find balance when time is limited and needs are great?

What goals do you have for your next church?

Tell us about your fundraising and stewardship philosophy and experiences.



*At this table
Everybody Matters*



Compensation Information

With consideration for education and experience, our faith community is offering a compensation package of \$50,000 - 65,000 annually. The compensation can be allocated to salary, housing allowance, health insurance, retirement savings at the selected candidate's discretion. The church is current with payments to the UFMCC Board of Pensions.

Additional benefits include paid vacation and sick leave annually with pulpit fill arranged by the pastor for any time off occurring during regularly scheduled worship services. The church community also supports pastoral sabbatical after a negotiated amount of time served by the selected candidate.



So come as you are
the perfect gift is your heart

Contact

— Table of Hope MCC —

Address : 156 S Kansas, Wichita KS 67211

www.tableofhopemcc.com

Email : tableofhopetech@gmail.com

Phone : (316) 267-1852