

**University Lutheran Church of Hope**  
**Minister of Community Engagement**

601 13<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414

612-331-5988 [www.ulch.org](http://www.ulch.org)

July 2021

**Title:** Minister of Community Engagement

**Reports to:** Lead Pastor

**Status:** Part-Time, approximately 16 - 20 hours per week

**FLSA:** Exempt

**The University Lutheran Church of Hope Community**

University Lutheran Church of Hope (ULCH) is a vibrant and healthy congregation on the edge of the University of Minnesota campus in the Dinkytown area of Minneapolis. Worship grounded in love, justice, and God's radical grace shapes our congregation's life. We use the tag "Complex world. Thoughtful church." This captures our ministry of porous walls and embracing people throughout life's journey. University Lutheran Church of Hope is part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the ELCA. ULCH is a progressive congregation focused around our worship life and a lively expression of the Lutheran tradition.

**Position Summary**

University Lutheran Church of Hope seeks a candidate to engage the congregation in building authentic long-term relationships that center on our neighbors' interests, while understanding and addressing our individual and collective privilege.

**Essential Functions**

- **Create pathways for greater community engagement** with the wider neighborhood **by listening** to each other's stories and mutually supporting physical and spiritual needs
- Invite the congregation and neighborhood into **building relational power** that makes Gospel-grounded justice and equity a way of life
- **Work strategically, when issues arise, to coordinate actions** with lay leaders, congregations, and other neighbors to bring about social change in focused areas
- **Lead the congregation in sharing space, time, and resources** with our neighboring communities as an expression of Christ's radical hospitality
- Support the congregation's involvement in the **Sanctuary movement** and in ministry with **unsheltered neighbors**
- **Continue our commitment to ministry with young adults and students**, including Lutheran Campus Ministry.
- **Serve as University Lutheran Church of Hope's liaison** with neighborhood groups and organizations such as Marcy Holmes Neighborhood Organization, Dinkytown businesses and initiatives, the University Area Sanctuary Coalition, groups working with unsheltered neighbors, fraternities and sororities, and new partnerships.

- **Offer leadership in the worship and program life** of the congregation on Sundays and when the faith community gathers
- **Engage in activities to build intercultural competence** and with others take leadership in this work.
- **Regularly communicate and participate** in staff and leadership meetings

### **Core Competencies**

- Creative, outside-the-box thinker with a wide range of ideas for engaging the community
- Sensitive to the particular challenges facing urban congregations
- Interest and experience in working with university students, young adults, unsheltered people and other transient groups
- Interest in working across generations and cultures
- Able to hold good boundaries and set achievable goals
- Team player and collaborator with good relationship-building skills
- Able to inspire and motivate volunteers
- Patient, courageous self-starter
- Excellent organizational and communication skills

### **Qualifications**

- B.A./B.S. degree or equivalent is encouraged
- Community organizing/engagement training and experience
- Theological training is encouraged, but not required

### **Commitment and Compensation**

16-20 hours per week, including 3-4 hours on Sunday mornings and a weekly one-hour staff meeting. We seek someone with the will and ability to stay in this position for at least three years, thus establishing relationships and providing consistent leadership. Compensation to be negotiated based on experience; the range is \$16,500-\$22,900 per year. University Lutheran Church of Hope seeks a diverse pool of candidates.

### **Supervision**

Work in collaboration with staff and volunteers with the direction of the Lead Pastor

### **Application Process:**

Interested candidates should send a cover letter and resume to the ULCH Personnel Committee at [employment@ulch.org](mailto:employment@ulch.org). Review of applications begins on July 20, 2021. Start date is anticipated to be late summer. We are currently also hiring for the areas of faith formation and worship tech support. This Minister of Community Engagement position could potentially be combined with one of these. Please indicate this in a cover letter.