

Westside Church of Christ
7009 Johnnycake Road
Windsor Mill, Maryland 21244
Website: <http://www.westsideforchrist.org>
Email: newlife@westsideforchrist.org

Applicant's resumes should reflect the qualifications and experience requirements set forth in this vacancy announcement and job description. Resumes, with references and a sample sermon video, should be submitted by mail or email at the above addresses. A background check may be performed as part of the vetting process. We will contact previous employers and institutions to verify work experience and education.

We are looking for a man who can

- Disciple believers in God's word.
- Train believers to be mission-minded.
- Comfort God's people in adversity.
- Live a godly life through his actions, words and deeds.
- Boldly proclaim the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all.

Position Qualifications:

- Ability to work sensitively and well in a multicultural, multi-racial, and multi-ethnic urban community and congregation.
- Must have a degree in Bible from an accredited college or university in biblical, theological and ministerial training. Training in biblical languages is preferred, not required.
- Previous experience in congregational ministry for five or more years.
- Demonstrated ability and skills in preaching, as well as community outreach.
- Firmly committed to and believe the truth of the Bible and apply the teachings of the Bible to the issues and conditions of the world today.
- Appreciates the rich heritage within the Churches of Christ, but will also envision a future not bound by tradition, and be open to the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

- Desire to become part of the membership at Westside, working under and alongside the elders to build the congregation through community outreach and teaching God's word.
- Will model a life-long commitment to Christ-likeness through personal spiritual disciplines, the practice of spiritual discernment and submission to the Holy Spirit in his decisions and actions.

Who we are:

The Westside Church of Christ, a plant church of Baltimore's University Parkway Church of Christ, held its first worship service in January 1965. We appointed our first elders in November 1968. Westside met in rented space for its first 9 ½ years before occupying its current building in May 1974.

Over the years Westside has held Vacation Bible School, lectureships, and seminars. We have hosted:

- Youth meetings and community outreach events, such as
 - Free car wash
 - Girl scouts
 - Alcoholics Anonymous
 - Homeschooling and daycare
 - Two COVID-19 vaccine clinics

In addition to the above we have:

- Ministered to the homeless
- Worked with organizations seeking to end human trafficking
- Participated in the Promise Keepers' Stand in the Gap event in an unforgettable day of prayer and praise
- Hosted Hispanic brothers and sisters from 2006 to 2019
- Continue to support a local children's home

The COVID-19 pandemic brought about many changes in the way we meet together to worship and learn. We stopped meeting in the building about March 2020 and began conducting worship services and Bible classes via Zoom and YouTube. About a year later in March 2021 we returned to the building. Initially, it was limited to people serving in various worship service roles. Later, we welcomed any member who wished to join us for in-person worship while

continuing Zoom and YouTube streaming. We pray for the day when COVID will be but a memory, and we will all be meeting under one roof again.

The COVID pandemic, the resignation of our minister, and a move to make our worship service more egalitarian has challenged us. In view of these changes, we conducted an in-depth survey of the congregation in September 2021 to help us better understand who we are and what we need to do to move forward. In its 56 years, Westside has confronted many challenges. In every case, with the help of God and the strength of a committed membership, we have overcome many challenges and continue to move forward. With our shared vision, One in Spirit, One in Love, Glorifying God, we will continue to do so.

Westside is in Windsor Mill, an ethnically and racially diverse community just west of Baltimore City. We have three elders and a part-time interim minister.

Areas of Responsibility

Preaching

- Weekly on Sunday mornings.
- Exegetically sound, spiritually-formative, seeker-sensitive, encouraging, relevant and practical sermons.
- Sermon series should keep the congregation engaged.
- Audio-visual presentations that contribute to and reinforce the message.

Teaching

- Mid-week or Sunday morning Bible study.
- Conduct one-on-one studies with visitors and members for growth in the faith.

Pastoral Care

- Work diligently to get to know each member personally.
- Be available to members before and after worship services and Bible studies.
- Visit members who are sick or shut-in.
- Meet and greet with guests and visitors and follow-up with them.

- Conduct Bible-based premarital counseling and perform weddings.
- Conduct funerals.

Community Outreach

- Listen to community needs and initiate new outreach efforts to bless our neighbors.
- Work with the elders to develop a strategy for evangelism and outreach.
- Be the primary point of contact and spokesperson for the congregation in the community at various events and meetings.

Leadership Development

- Work with elders to strategically form an agenda for the weekly leadership meetings and assist in guiding the direction of the congregation.
- Show personal creativity in initiating and developing new programs.
- Help identify and encourage members to lead ministries and initiate new ministries.
- Continuation of personal development through reading and seminars.

A position description cannot cover all details of the duties of the minister; therefore, the minister and the elders may initiate discussions about changing the contents of this document as needs and circumstances change. In addition, the minister should expect the full support and cooperation of the congregation in carrying out these duties.