

Ministry ID 080392
Ministry Name Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys
Mailing Address PO Box 431
City Kerkhoven
State MN
Zip Code 56252
Telephone Number 320-235-7910
Fax Number none
Email karen@minnesotavalleys.org
Website www.minnesotavalleys.org

Congregation or Organization Size 51 Congregations, 5483 Members
Average Worship Attendance NA
Church School Attendance NA
Church School Curriculum NA

Check if eligible for participation in the Seminary Debt Assistance Program

Ethnic Composition of Congregation

0 American Indian or Alaska Native
0 Asian/Pacific Islander
0 Black or African American
0 Hispanic Latino/Latina, Spanish
0 Middle Eastern
99 White
0 Other

Presbytery: Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys

Synod: Synod of Lakes and Prairies

Community Type Small City

Synod Contact Information

Name Gretchen Milloy
Address 2115 Cliff Drive
City Eagan
State MN
Zip 55122
Preferred Phone (651) 357-1140
Alternate Phone 1-800-328-1880
Email gmilloy@lakesandprairies.org
Fax (651) 357-1141

Select the position to be filled and the minimal number of years of experience required (no experience, first ordained call, up to 2 years, 2-5 years, 5-10 years, or above 10)

X General Presbyter/Executive Presbyter, Presbytery Leader

You may also specify the position title (if appropriate)

Executive Presbyter

Employment Status

Full Time

Is this a yoked congregation?

No

Are you open to a clergy couple?

Yes

Certification/Training

Interim/Transitional Ministry Training

Certified Conflict Mediator

Language Requirement

English

Statement of Faith Required

Yes

Mission Statement

We are congregations who seek to be a collective expression of the Body of Christ, joyfully participating in Christ's on-going life and work. We are connected, caring, Christian communities who nurture faithful and engaged disciples. Our congregations are Christian communities growing in faith, hope, love, and witness to the sovereign activity of God. We are Christian communities seeking to live out the principles of Presbyterian polity and practice, acknowledging that Jesus Christ is head of the Church.

Narrative Questions

1. What is the congregation's or organization's vision for ministry? Additionally describe how this vision is lived out.

We are a Presbytery in transition, with 51 churches and 5,483 Presbyterians at work and worship throughout Minnesota (1 Corinthians 12:27). Our vision is to reshape the Presbytery from a management model to a partnership paradigm, working with congregations as they serve Christ by meeting the changing needs of their neighbors (John 10:10). It is vital for the Presbytery to assist and to provide a hope-filled future to our many small, rural churches and ministries (Jeremiah 29:11). Especially in times of difficulty nationally (pandemics, racial unrest, cultural incivility) and locally (declining membership, reduced finances, empty pulpits), it is the calling of the Presbytery to be a resource for and to offer strong, faithful leadership to its congregations (1 Thessalonians 5:11). The Presbytery fulfills its purpose through the work of its Commissions and the Presbytery Staff, through quarterly Presbytery meetings and regular fellowship and educational gatherings, through its ministry of presence in and among the local congregations, and through its relations with other denominations (1 Peter 2:9).

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

The apostle Paul encourages us to *"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ"* (Galatians 6:2). Minnesota Valleys is primarily composed of rural, agriculturally based communities with small membership congregations. But we are also lake communities with seasonally fluctuating populations and larger communities - regional centers and college towns - that are experiencing growing diversity. We believe each congregation is uniquely situated to know and address the needs of its community. Partnerships with local organizations (i.e., service clubs, food pantries, housing programs) and congregations (shared ministries across denominations) afford congregations real-world opportunities to put their faith into action, making a difference for their neighbors and their communities. The "burdens" of these congregations for their neighbors is deeply felt as communities change and young adults move to urban centers, as new neighbors with different cultures and customs emerge, and as local church memberships diminish and age. The Presbytery exists to support local church initiatives with financial, material, educational, and spiritual resources. The Presbytery is also the entity which can connect congregational and individual efforts to ensure success and reduce the duplication of

effort. The “burden” of our Presbytery lies in championing these small-church ministries for the transformation of our communities.

3. How will this position help you reach your vision and mission goals?

The Executive Presbyter will serve as the presbytery leader and head of staff for the Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys. The Executive Presbyter will work with the leadership of the presbytery, holding the presbytery’s vision before the collective body, and providing the coordination, nurture, and encouragement necessary to promote the mission and ministries of the presbytery through its officers, committees, congregations, and members. We recognize that a vital future involves building meaningful partnerships locally, regionally, and globally. It also means exploring innovative avenues of providing leadership and vision for our congregations. It is through collaboration and innovation that we will be able to identify and address the emerging needs in our presbytery. We desire a leader who can help us embrace a vision for a vital future.

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

This person will aspire to the qualities described by the apostle Paul in Romans 12:9-21 (NRSV).

- Let love be genuine: *Labor for the common good.*
- Hate what is evil: *Speak truth to power.*
- Hold fast to what is good: *Embrace God’s vision for the Presbytery.*
- Love one another: *Convey deep compassion.*
- Outdo one another in showing honor: *Empower the ministries of others.*
- Be ardent in spirit: *Invite God’s Spirit to infuse your life and work.*
- Serve the Lord: *Work for the fulfillment of God’s sovereign reign.*
- Rejoice in hope: *Proclaim the assurance we have in Jesus Christ.*
- Endurance in suffering: *Walk with us through difficult days.*
- Persevere in prayer: *Uplift our congregations and people in prayer.*
- Contribute to the needs of the saints: *Be generous with all the gifts God gives you.*
- Extend hospitality to strangers: *Offer everyone an extravagant welcome.*
- Bless those who persecute you: *Practice humility and empathy.*
- Live in harmony: *Pursue reconciliation between persons.*
- Associate with the lowly: *Seek justice for all people.*
- Do not claim to be wiser than you are: *Consider the experience of the assembly.*
- Give thought to what is honorable: *Be truthful and accountable.*
- Live peaceably with all: *Nurture healthy relationships.*
- If anyone is hungry, feed them; thirsty, give drink: *Provide for others’ needs.*
- Overcome evil with good: *Emulate the love of Jesus Christ.*

5. For what specific tasks, assignments, and program areas will this person have responsibility?

This person will:

- Serve as the chief administrative officer of the Presbytery; oversee daily operations; ensure the integrity of fiscal data; model transparency and accountability; and supervise the Presbytery staff.
- Nurture relationships with congregations and leaders; set a positive tone for the mission and ministries of the Presbytery; identify resources which benefit congregations; cultivate relationships at all levels of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); foster relationships with inter-faith partners; offer leadership development and counsel to pastors and congregations.
- Empower individuals, especially ordained persons, to use their energies and passions to live out their commitment to serve in the councils of the church; secure training which enables them to gain knowledge, skills, and relationships necessary to carry out the mission of the Presbytery; provide support for the ministries of the Presbytery's committees; foster an acceptance and valuing of people with diverse experiences, talents and ideas; cultivate a shared sense of commitment and purpose within the Presbytery.
- Enable good communication by demonstrating effective personal communication; support the development of communication structures, using electronic means to enhance the dissemination of information; and empower individuals, networks, and committees to tell their stories, fulfilling the Presbytery's vision widely through their words, actions, and connections.

Optional Links

www.minnesotavalleys.org

www.facebook.com/Minnesota-Valleys-Presbytery

www.lakesandprairies.org

www.clearwaterforest.org

www.lakeshorecenteratokoboji.org

www.willmarareachamber.com

www.stcloudareachamber.com

www.greatermankato.com

www.worthingtonmnchamber.com

www.fergusfalls.com

www.luvernechamber.com

Leadership Competencies

Theological/Spiritual:

Compassionate

Hopeful

Spiritual Maturity

Communication:

Communicator

Organizational:

Change Agent
Decision making
Strategy & Vision
Collaboration

Interpersonal Engagement:

Interpersonal Engagement
Motivator

Compensation and Housing

Minimum Effective Salary: \$70,000
Housing Type: Housing Allowance

Maximum Effective Salary: \$91,000

Equal Employment Opportunity

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

References (Limit 3)

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Search Committee Chairperson

Leanne Thompson
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