

EASTERN OHIO WESTERN RESERVE ASSOCIATIONS, OH CONFERENCE UCC

POSITION TITLE: Minister of Faith in Action

HOURS: Full time

REPORTS TO: Association's General Minister

FLSA STATUS: Exempt

POSITION DESCRIPTION: The Minister of Faith in Action will be responsible for justice, service, reconciliation and prophetic witness ministries of the Association in order to enhance our common efforts to turn faith into action, to embody Christ to one another, and become a source of healing and restoration in our communities and the world.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Develop a comprehensive design for community engagement and prophetic witness ministries for the Association, turning faith into action
- Design and implement, in partnership with congregations, ministries of community engagement
- Assist congregations in discerning and clarifying their calling to do mission in their communities
- Proactively identify and determine community engagement opportunities in the Association's geographical areas
- Assist congregations in determining the community engagement possibilities in their geographical areas
- Determine the needs of communities and community engagement opportunities in geographical areas, and match those needs with the gifts of congregations in order to implement a plan of engagement
- Energize and encourage, as well as organize congregations in close proximity in specific geographical areas to partner and work together in community engagement projects
- Encourage local church creativity, vibrancy and diversity, as well as new initiatives
- Staff and guide the prophetic witness ministries of the Association, rotating, evaluating, letting go as needed, as well as birthing new ones when warranted
- Partner with AGM to be a resource for Congregational vitality
- Other tasks as assigned by AGM

REQUIRED SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES:

- At least 5 years of Ordained Ministerial standing in the United Church of Christ
- Thorough understanding of the United Church of Christ, its history and polity and its commitment to prophetic and justice ministries
- Ability to interpret and communicate justice as an issue and act of faith
- Embody a reconciling and healing presence in the Association and beyond
- Demonstrated ability and experience in organizing community events

Eastern Ohio and Western Reserve Association is a body of 150 UCC congregations in North East Ohio, with 350 clergy and more than 8000 members.

Soon following our Annual meeting scheduled for November 3, the Associations will legally and practically become one Association with the new name – Living Water Association, Ohio NorthEast, OH Conference UCC.

In addition to a new name, our vision for the next few years, when OH Conference UCC itself transitions to a more cohesive shared ministry among its 4 Associations, includes a new calling to REFRESH our souls, hearts and lives; to RENEW our congregations and church communities, and to RESTORE the world to what God intended it to be. Our purpose is – to be a resource and support for the health and wellbeing of our congregations that we may grow into communities of healing, justice and grace.

In Ohio, Associations function as conferences, hence our Association boasts the following key areas of ministry:

- Committee on Ministry
- Search and Call
- Congregational Vitality and Development
- Prophetic Witness
 - Opiate Crisis
 - Culture of Peace
 - Community Engagement
 - Open and Affirming
 - Food Security
 - Colour Abundant
- Faith Formation, Spiritual Development, Youth and Mission
- NEOSOM – School of Ministry
- Administrative and Financial Ministry

Our Association and congregations boast a living ministry. Although many of our congregations are established and rooted in tradition, vitality and new ways of being church in this time and place are sought and embraced. Our congregations are diverse, especially in faith and theological understanding as well as justice and peace issues. Yet, we agree that we are one community in Christ, in covenant, called to embody Christ in our communities and beyond.

Please visit our website for additional information about our Association's Ministry:

www.eoawraucc.org

Church Vitality and Development generally emphasize visioning, strategic planning, congregational self-assessment, creative worship, restructuring governance, etc. all introspective processes. What if instead of looking within, congregations looked without, into the communities in which they find themselves, and begin to engage with them focusing on embodying Christ in our communities and world?

The Association's **Minister of Faith in Action** will be responsible for justice, service, reconciliation and prophetic witness ministries of the Association in order to enhance our common efforts to turn faith into action, to embody Christ to one another, and become a source of healing and restoration in our communities and the world, especially through organizing our congregations in community engagement.

We are excited about this new ministry and its possibilities as we discover new ways of being church. Eastern Ohio and Western Reserve Associations will soon legally and practically become one Association of 150 congregations with the new name – Living Water Association, Ohio NorthEast, OH Conference UCC.

At this juncture of our new beginning we seek a person who is passionate about the way of Jesus, who perceives justice as an issue of faith, and is able to interpret and communicate it as such; a person who is an experienced organizer, attentive listener, with strong relational skills, including social media and technology.

Profiles will be received until October 27, 2018. Please submit profiles and cover letter to the Rev. Nayiri Karjian, Association's General Minister, agm@eoawraucc.org. Thank you!

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| Type of Position | Association Staff, Minister of Faith in Action |
| Salary Basis | Conference Guidelines Negotiable |
| Benefits | Salary Plus Benefits |
| Housing | Housing Allowance Provided |