

Transitional Minister

Independence Boulevard Christian Church, 606 Gladstone Blvd, Kansas City, MO 64124,
<https://www.ibcckc.org/>

Independence Boulevard Christian Church is home to the Micah Ministry (feeding, clothing, and providing free medical care to hundreds to meet critical needs every Monday evening), two nesting congregations of thirty average worship attendance each (Congolese and Latinx), and a small but mighty congregation of between eight and twelve members and visitors in average Sunday worship attendance. The campus is large and there is space for so much more than is being done to welcome and serve one of the most diverse and challenged populations in the Kansas City metro. There is an endowment that is dedicated to the care of the building and leaders allege that there are enough reserve funds to assure sustainability over the next seven years.

It should be noted that the church campus is located in an area that is regularly patrolled by local law enforcement. All people who serve on the campus are aware of the need to be vigilant and welcoming. Compassion, presence and a reputation for meeting needs have helped to make Independence Boulevard Christian Church respected and appreciated by many residents and commuters in this part of the city.

Leaders of the church board of directors request the help of a qualified Disciples of Christ minister (or an ordained ministerial partner in the United Church of Christ) to serve part-time for the near term. The position may develop as the mission and membership expands and more funding and partnership opportunities become available. As that happens, leaders are willing to consider more hours and compensation commensurate with the church's need and the experience, drive and ability of their pastor.

Initially, the congregation needs a pastor who can assist them with normal pastoral duties, including preaching, pastoral care, and active presence at Micah Ministry Mondays. The expected time commitment is 20-25 hours a week and includes sermon preparation time. Within six months after calling their transitional minister, there will be a re-evaluation of the position with help from our Regional staff.

Leaders are interested in engaging in a discernment process (like New Beginnings or an equivalent process with Disciples Church Extension Fund). They want to know what God's plans may be for the future of Independence Boulevard Christian Church and what opportunities there may be to practice partnership with other churches and organizations serving God's people in the historic Northeast neighborhood of Kansas City. Anyone applying to serve IBCC should be willing to help the congregation during that discernment process.

There is a need to expedite the search. While it is preferable to open this opportunity to Disciples ministers with updated ministerial profiles at Disciples Home Missions, leaders are willing to consider letters of interest and resumes of ministers currently in (or qualified to receive) good standing in the Greater Kansas City Region.

Please direct all inquiries and/or resumes/profiles to our Regional Minister at billrh@kcdisciples.org.