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Job Description for a Sabbatical Regional Minister serving September 1 – November 30, 2021.

The Greater Kansas City Region is comprised of 74 reporting and supporting Disciples congregations located in eight contiguous counties along the eastern edge of Kansas and the western edge of Missouri roughly centered around Kansas City.

Members of the Regional Staff include:

- Rev. William Rose-Heim, Regional Minister and President (FT)
- Rev. Dr. Delesslyn Kennebrew, Regional Minister for Ministry Innovation and Vice-President (FT)
- Rev. Shandra Yost Soltani, Regional Camp and Conference Coordinator ½ time)
- Ms. Jessica Lopez, Regional Office Administrator (FT)
- Ms. Gwen Brown, Finance Manager (1/5 time)

The current staff has served together for three years.

A copy of this Region's 2020 General Board Report is attached to provide an overview of the health and activity of the Region.

In March 2021, the Personnel Committee and the Executive Committee of our Region met with our General Minister and President Terri Hord Owens to review the scope of work and the option to call a Sabbatical Regional Minister. The scope of work would include those basic tasks that only a Regional Minister can perform and assistance with a Regional Board that will have just come off a planning retreat at the end of July. The person called would oversee that normal administration and limited pastoral care is carried out (**Holding the Center**), while also having an opportunity to assist members of our Regional Board to build on the missional momentum developing within our Region (**Discerning a Better Future**).

The Sabbatical Regional Minister shall be a Disciples minister in good standing with experience in interim and/or long-term Regional Ministry, available and able to serve remotely approximately fifteen to twenty hours per week during the time that the Regional Minister and President is away for a Sabbatical leave. Compensation in the range of \$10,000-\$15,000 correlates to that received by the current Regional Minister when adjusted for the hours asked. A Regional staff travel budget is already in place and would be sufficient to cover any needed travel. An external hard drive with all administrative,

congregational, and clergy records would be provided, along with use of a laptop capable of running those programs.

“HOLDING THE CENTER”: How our Regional Operations would be supported during the Sabbatical time.

- Provide oversight of the most essential services:
 - Support and oversee work of the Regional staff
 - They demonstrate initiative, collaboration, and commitment to mission.
 - Support the Executive Committee, and Regional Board
 - The Executive Team of six includes four officers, a past-moderator, and the RMP who have met monthly online for nearly two years (1st Mondays 11:30-1:00 pm)
 - The Regional Board of 23 members meets quarterly (and will meet at 7:00 pm on September 27th).
 - Assure that functioning Commissions, Committees, and Constituency groups have the administrative support necessary to continue their work.
 - Each of the Commissions, Committees and Constituency groups run their own meetings (currently online and/or in hybrid form) and may or may not need advice and counsel from the Sabbatical Regional Minister
 - Support KC Disciples congregations and clergy in Search and Call
 - We anticipate that there will be few transitions occurring during the Sabbatical leave.
 - The Office Administrator is knowledgeable about using CDM+ for Search and Call, transfer of standing, and addition of those with new standing
 - Participate in online meetings of the College of Regional Ministers and the Tri-Regional Partnership
 - The College of Regional Ministers currently meets online every two weeks
 - The Tri-Regional Partnership meets online monthly, and the Sabbatical Regional Minister would be invited to share counsel as the Partnership exploration would enter the next phase of its facilitated work.

Note: As the dangers of the current pandemic subside to a level where it is safe to gather physically, some Regional meetings and functions will take place at the Merriam Christian Church which offers free use of space and internet. Should groups wishing assistance from the Sabbatical Regional Minister meet in person there is hardware to make virtual participation

accessible. Prior to the pandemic our Region was already using the hybrid meeting option with Disciples Treasury Services and other meeting participants.

DISCERNING A BETTER FUTURE: How the Sabbatical Regional Minister could help our Region become a better covenant partner with congregations, their lay leaders, and clergy.

- Assist with refining discernment processes already underway
 - Covenant Education materials will have been available and some groups in our Region will have begun conversations around that material from the Governance Committee of the General Board
 - Outcomes from the Regional Board retreat
 - The retreat on July 31 will offer a fresh opportunity to revisit the Region's Future Story considering changes and congregational needs identified during COVID
 - The fresh perspective and counsel of the Sabbatical Regional Minister would be appreciated.

EXISTING LEADERS TO ASSIST:

- Rev. Dr. Delesslyn Kennebrew, Regional Minister for Ministry Innovation and Vice President, would assume responsibility as signatory on any legal documentation required during the sabbatical leave. (Although not anticipated, if this duty required a significant amount of extra time, the Personnel Committee would recommend additional compensation for Dr. Kennebrew.)
- The newly formed Clergy Support group (Rev. Rob Carr, chair) and the Standing team (Rev. Mark Harmon, chair) – parts of the reforming Regional Commission on the Order of the Ministry will be active during this time providing additional assistance to and opportunities for clergy support and help with issues related to standing.
- The Camp and Conference Coordinator and the Camp and Conference Committee work year 'round to assure that summer church camps are organized, staffed and leaders oriented. The Camp and Conference Coordinator works closely with the Office Administrator, and the Finance Manager to book reservations at our Tall Oaks Camp and Conference center, negotiate dates with United Camps and Conferences which operates Tall Oaks, and market opportunities for leadership and campers.
- Note that Tall Oaks Camp and Conference Center – now a wholly owned 501.c.3 subsidiary of our Region - is operated by United Camps, Conferences, and Retreats and overseen by a Tall Oaks Board.