



Ministry General Information

Ministry Name First Presbyterian Church	Presbytery Yellowstone	Synod The Rocky Mountains
Email susiejohnson3@gmail.com	Preferred Phone 406-846-1378	Website Address NA
Mailing Address 500 Milwaukee Ave, Deer Lodge, MT 59722-1147	Alternate Phone/Email NA	Community Type Town
Congregation or Organization Size Under 100 members	Curriculum NA	Average Worship Attendance 30
Church School Attendance 5	Statistical Report https://ogaapps.pcusa.org/api/report/4285	
Intercultural Composition White: 95%, Multiracial: 5%		Released Date 1/29/2025

Information about the Position

Position Requirements

Position Type(s) Solo Pastor: Installed	Language Requirements English
Experience Required No Experience/First Ordained Call	Statement of Faith required? Yes
Employment Status Full-time	Are you open to a clergy couple? Yes

Ministry Requirements

Church Mission/Vision Statement

We believe that eternal salvation comes through God's Grace through faith in Jesus Christ. Salvation is not a matter of human works or achievement. The Presbyterian Church of Deer Lodge exists to proclaim this gospel message of salvation in Jesus Christ to those seeking to know him as Lord and Savior. We are also committed to nurturing those who believe so that we all may live out the faith we profess. We believe that there is no area of life where one's faith and the Lordship of Christ do not apply. We want to be a Christian witness and serve the people of the Deer Lodge and Powell County Community.

Tasks, expectations, duties, supervision, assignments, and responsibilities for the position

We have quality worship services, traditional in nature, with greeters, liturgists, and music director. We have active deacons willing to assist the pastor in providing pastoral care. The minister would be responsible for church services including communion each month, holy days and spiritual ceremonies such as baptisms, weddings, funerals. The pastor should be interested in building relationships with those in our congregation and in our community. The pastor would also provide visitations, counseling, and spiritual guidance for those in need. The minister would visit shut-ins at the Ivy convalescence center, the hospital, and the Renaissance assisted living. He/she would prepare weekly bulletins, conduct occasional Bible studies, and moderate Session and Deacon meetings. We would want our pastor to participate in the ecumenical Blue Christmas service, Christmas Eve service, Easter Sunrise service, and potlucks.

Compensation & Housing

Minimum Effective Salary

56402

Housing Type

Housing allowance

MDP - Narratives

How would you describe the congregation's/organization's specific vision for ministry? How will this vision impact the community? Is the congregation part of a ministry vision or program?

We are a small church, strong in spirit and eager to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community and beyond. Our congregation is eager to hear God's word, to feel the Holy Spirit among us, and to know Jesus. We welcome others to join us and learn and serve along with us. Our members are active in many local service organizations including the Food Pantry, Elks, American Legion, Women's Club, Senior Citizens, Christmas Shoe Box program, and others too many to list here. Within our church we collect school supplies, winter clothing, and food pantry donations. Deacons distribute personalized items or funds to those with specific needs. Sunday services are a time for prayer, gaining spiritual strength, rejoicing in God's love for us, praising Him with music and song, and connecting with each other. We believe in the power of prayer. We would love to become more multi-generational and grow. Our hope is for a part-time pastor to commit to join us, guide us, administer the sacraments, equip us to be the hands and feet of Christ, preach the word of God to us, and help us in our times of need.

What is the nature and context of the community in which your congregation lives out its mission/vision? How will you address the emerging needs that are impacting your community?

Deer Lodge is a small community of about 3,000 people, county seat of Powell County, with many agricultural operations. We are just off Interstate 90 about halfway between Yellowstone and Glacier National Park. The men's state prison is located here. The cities of Missoula and Butte are 85 and 35 miles away respectively. There is plenty of scenery, history, hunting, hiking, and fishing to enjoy. We have a library, hospital, movie theater, Grant Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site, local theater, and the Old Montana Prison/Auto Museum. Deer Lodge is not immune from the problems facing towns and cities everywhere (low incomes, empty store fronts, lack of affordable housing). First Presbyterian Church recently celebrated 150 years in Deer Lodge! We're a member of the Deer Lodge Ministerial Association (DLMA) which includes several local churches. DLMA maintains a fund to aid transients and has supported Spiritual Life Week (SLW) for about 40 yrs. SLW

includes speakers, luncheons, and evening services. The DLMA holds a Blue Christmas service for those suffering a loss and struggling during the holiday season. Our members are active, helping where they can in our community. We are open to new ideas. We have handled and embraced a lot of change through the years. We are consistent supporters of the food pantry and school children.

How will this call help complement the responsibilities of other staff/volunteer positions, and the life of the congregation/organization, so that you may accomplish your short and long-term goals for ministry?

The minister serves as the congregation's spiritual leader and as such "equip the people to do the work of the ministry," consistent with the teachings of the Presbyterian faith. One of the main goals is to encourage the congregation to be doers of the word and not simply observers. Our pastor needs to be a good listener, build sound relationships of trust and respect with our many volunteers like our administrative assistant, musicians, and cleaning crew to encourage them and build a team spirit that will help enrich our worship and church life.

Provide a description of the skills, gifts and training the person you hope will become a part of your ministry must have, to lead the congregation towards the vision and mission established.

We would like a minister who is compassionate, prayerful, joyful, motivated, and community minded. He/She should be a team player who is comfortable working with all ages, especially Seniors, along with creativity and the ability to help us see the needs and God's opportunities in our community to love and reach those outside the church. Having a thorough knowledge of scripture and Presbyterian doctrine are important. Computer literacy and organization are essential.

What areas of ministry do you expect the person called to be responsible for? Share specific tasks, assignments, and programs.

The minister would be responsible for weekly worship services and monthly communion as well as any extra services during Christmas and Easter holidays. He/she would also perform baptisms, weddings, and funerals. The pastor would visit members who are in need of spiritual care, those in the hospital, assisted living, nursing home, or shut-in at home. Attendance at Session and Deacons meetings will help equip them to do the work of ministry. Elders and Deacons are willing to help the pastor with all the above-mentioned activities. We would like to re-establish our on-line church services. Our Pastor should be involved in the Yellowstone Presbytery. Our Pastor should make time for personal meditation and prayer. We would also encourage involvement in the community, looking for ways to build strong relationships and explore creative ways to share the Love of Jesus Christ with others.

Optional Links

References

Reference #1

David Baker
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Reference #2

Lisa Cole
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Reference #3

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