

Full-Time Pastor, Akron Christian Reformed Church

We seek a pastor to lead and partner with our congregation as we participate in Christ's kingdom and serve as a merciful and gracious reflection of God's presence in the world.

As [our mission states](#), "We are a community of grace, called by the Holy Spirit to participate in God's redemptive work. As the body of Christ we learn, grow, and worship together, and reflect the love of Jesus Christ into the lives of the people who surround us." We are committed to [liturgy, music, art, youth, outreach, and discipleship](#).

Roles and Responsibilities

The following five roles have been identified by our congregation as primary for this position.

Preacher

Preaching that is rooted in scripture and guided by the Holy Spirit to draw us into a deepening relationship with Christ and Christ's Kingdom, both individually and as a faith community.

- Prepare and deliver sermons for weekly Sunday worship and special services, weddings, funerals
- Prepare and deliver sermons that inspire, challenge, and encourage the congregation

Leader

Leadership that inspires and encourages members of the congregation to grow in Christ and use their time and talents for God's work.

- Keep the ministry focused upon the Mission Statement.
- Support and participate in activities that promote the well-being and unity of the church body.
- Build relationships and foster a healthy community within the church.
- Coordinate with the elders to provide shepherding and pastoral care of the congregation. This includes contact and visitation for shut-ins and the sick, counseling and guidance as needed, and monitoring the spiritual health of the congregation.
- Officiate at weddings, funerals, and other church-related services.

Prayer and Worship Leader

Corporate worship that shapes our hearts by leading us into God's presence.

- Design liturgies that follow the church calendar
- Facilitate our corporate worship by working with lay leaders to coordinate music, art, and liturgies
- Regular administration of the sacraments of the Lord's Supper and baptism
- Officiate at weddings, funerals, and other church-related services.

Missionary Vision Leader

Communicate a vision for connecting the truth, love, and grace of the gospel with the deep needs of our world and of the people around us.

- Engagement and outreach with the neighborhood and community around our church: building relationships, serving others through acts of compassion and outreach initiatives
- Represent the church in the community
- Cooperate with local churches, missions and faith-based organizations
- Ensure that church is welcoming and inclusive of people from diverse backgrounds

Administrator

Collaborative leadership that encourages and challenges our staff, elders and deacons, and lay leaders in their respective ministries.

- Represent the church in the denomination
- Train leaders, elders and deacons to effectively minister in their roles
- Facilitate and ensure clear and meaningful communication among church staff and the congregation
- Maintain regular office hours at the church and is reasonably accessible
- Carry out general office functions such as writing correspondence, answering inquiries, receiving visitors, and maintaining files and records. Select resources and study materials for congregation use, in consultation with Council.

We also expect and support our pastor to nurture, protect and grow his or her own spiritual formation, through prayer and meditation on the scriptures, interactions with others, and spiritual mentorship. We also expect and encourage ongoing professional development through reading and personal study, retreats, conferences and courses, and educational sabbaticals.

Qualifications

Academic Credentials: an MDiv or similar degree from an accredited seminary

Ordination: Be ordained (or have the credentials to be ordained) in a historically Reformed denomination (such as the Christian Reformed Church, Reformed Church of America, or Presbyterian Church USA)

Experience: 3-5 years of experience in church ministry, including outreach and engagement with the local community.

Compensation

The salary range we are prepared to offer our new pastor is based on the CRC Minister Compensation Survey for our area. Compensation also includes housing allowance, medical benefits, travel, paid vacation, and retirement compensation.

How to Apply

The following application materials, and questions, should be sent to: Elyse Garver-Hughes, Search Committee Chair, email: search@akron-crc.com.

- Letter of Interest
- Resume
- Responses to the following prompts (1-3 paragraphs each):
 - What initially draws you to the prospect of ministry in our congregation?
 - How do you think about the opportunities and challenges of ministry in an urban setting?
 - How should congregational diversity help shape congregational ministry, including diversity of socio-economic status, sexual orientation, theological perspective, and race?

Review of candidates will begin June 1, 2025, and continue until the position is filled.

[Akron CRC Website](#)