



SENIOR PASTOR Christ Lutheran Church

Overview

Christ Lutheran Church (<https://www.clcwhitefish.org>) in Whitefish, MT is eager to call a new Senior Pastor who will help them write the next chapter of their story. Following the retirement of their long-tenured pastor in 2019, the church entered into a season that has been peppered with challenges. Despite this, the people are hopeful and confident, believing God will call the right Senior Pastor to them to guide them into a purposeful future.

The Big Idea



CLC has a wonderful legacy of outreach to the community, seeking to be the hands and feet of Jesus to others. They built their facility with the community in mind and have opened the doors to programs such as "Shepherd's Hand," which provides medical services to underinsured people, groceries and meals for the hungry, and youth sports. Their annual VBS program is well-known, drawing in roughly 150 kids each year. They would love to more directly connect these efforts with the Gospel, drawing people toward Jesus and into the life of the church. CLC also wants to grow younger. While ensuring care for all generations, they have a clear desire to orient ministries to better serve and draw younger families and youth to the church. CLC desires to call a Senior Pastor who resonates with these priorities; one who brings the experience and energy needed to guide their investment the kinds of strategies that will achieve them.

The Church



Affiliation: LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)

Attendance: 300

About: CLC is a 102-year-old church that doesn't feel historic. The building sits on almost 10 acres of beautifully maintained property right next to a newer housing development. The church facilities encompass over 35,000 square feet, and feel warm and inviting. There is ample classroom space, a gym and multiple options for creative youth programming. The church offers two services on Sundays at 9 and 10:30 a.m. with a worship style that blends contemporary and traditional styles. CLC welcomes people from a variety of backgrounds (Baptist, Catholic, Assembly of God, Foursquare, Presbyterian, non-denominational, etc.). Throughout the week, people are engaged in Bible studies and small groups.

The Candidate



The incoming Pastor will love Jesus and possess an anchoring faith and intimate walk with the Lord. The people will resonate with someone who communicates God's Word in a style that is relatable, interesting and inspiring. People want to be discipled and challenged to live their faith, so it is important for the Senior Pastor to be a good expositor of the Bible while also being able to relate Scripture to the realities of daily life and culture. This church desires a pastor who is not only a visionary leader, but one who is a shepherd; approachable and caring. CLC needs a pastor who brings a proven ability to work with others to plan, implement, and follow through with excellence. The ideal candidate will understand the benefit of good organization and frequent communication.

The Location



Christ Lutheran Church is situated in beautiful Whitefish, Montana, a town of about 8,000 people located on the shores of Whitefish Lake and just a short jaunt to Glacier National Park. Whitefish has the unique distinction as being listed as one of the "Top 25 Ski Towns in the World" by National Geographic. The active person can enjoy a year-round playground. With a highly rated school system, low crime and one of the lowest tax rates in the U.S., the quality-of-life in the region is high. It is in this dynamic place the new Senior Pastor will engage ministry and watch their family grow.

The Qualifications



A theological Master's degree; Clear alignment with Lutheran theology and doctrine as described at the LCMC (Lutheran Congregations on Mission for Christ) website <http://www.lcmc.net/statement-of-faith/231>; Ordination, or ability and desire to be ordained, with the LCMC; Demonstrate a personal relationship with Jesus Christ; Excellent bible-based preaching, teaching and communication skill. A genuine passion for the gospel; Experience in innovating and growing ministry in a multi-generational context, with an emphasis on reaching younger families; Missionally focused and oriented toward serving and reaching the community with the Gospel; A minimum of 5 years of pastoral leadership experience, or equivalent, including oversight of paid staff and volunteers.

Next Steps

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