

Church Leadership Connection
The Call System for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Mif #: 00957.AB0

Ministry General Information

Ministry Number	00957
Ministry Name	Presbyterian Church in Sudbury
Mailing Address	330 Concord Rd Sudbury, MA 01776
Phone	978-443-9151
Fax	978-440-9030
E-Mail	pcsudbury@pcsudbury.org
WWW Address	www.pcsudbury.org
Ministry Size	101 - 250 members

Ethnic Composition	
	Asian 3%
	Black or African American (African Native, Caribbean) 2%
	White 95%

Average Worship Attendance	87
Church School Attendance	12
Curriculum	"Feasting on the Word" from Westminster John Knox Press
Certified as eligible for participation in the Seminary Debt Assistance Program	False
Yoked	False
Presbytery	BOSTON PRESBYTERY
Synod	SYNOD OF THE NORTHEAST
Community Type	Suburban

Ten-year trend statistics of this church/organization [Show Statistics](#)

Information about the position

Position:	Solo Pastor
Experience Required:	No Experience
Specific Title:	
Employment Status:	Full-time

Language Requirements:	
	English

Other Language:	
Statement of Faith Required:	True
Clergy Couples:	True

Training/Certificate Requirements:

Other Training:

Brief Church Mission Statement:

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Who We Are

We celebrate God's love for all and
Welcome everyone to embrace God's challenge to be
Faithful followers of Jesus Christ

What is the congregation's or organization's vision for ministry:

Where We Are Going

Led by the Spirit, we are building a joyful, vibrant church through:

- Worship that connects God's Word to our lives
- Outreach that embraces the wider community
- Service that helps those in need locally and globally
- Education that expands our faith.

We are a joyful church family seeking to grow and support each other in faith.

Worship is a vital component of our church. Our educated congregation appreciates sermons backed with expertise, scholarly reference, and heartfelt passion that connect God's word to our daily lives. We offer two Sunday services; the first has contemporary music, the second traditional. We also provide a monthly service for the residents of a nursing home.

Our mission program is strong, with both hands-on local ministries and more distant national and worldwide efforts. Our missions are driven by lay leadership, often spearheaded by a dedicated member. We provide a high level of financial support to our chosen causes: about 30% of total church income.

We value education and seek to increase our opportunities for adult learning and study groups to better integrate visitors and members into our church life. Our high-school program is vibrant and attracts kids from beyond our church; our elementary program is small, but with dedicated and enthusiastic teachers.

We host periodic public events to welcome people from the community, and provide space to local organizations.

How do you feel called to reach out to address the emerging needs of your community or constituency:

Our congregation's 2014 mission-study process indicates that our members prioritize connecting our church to the needs of its immediate community more directly and with firmer ties. Many of the people who live in Sudbury are attracted by proximity to high-profile jobs and excellent schools. The needs of this population include support with stressors involving marriage, divorce, work-home life balance, caring for aging parents, and both partnered and single parenting, from infancy (especially for older mothers, a large group in Massachusetts) through the teen years. While several of Sudbury's surrounding towns are equally affluent, others are far less so, and many of our neighbors are dealing with urgent needs that include food security and homelessness. Our state as a whole is struggling with domestic violence and drug abuse, particularly of opioids and prescription medications.

Our church is a place where we aspire to "Love one another." We want people in all walks of the broader community to enjoy the benefits of that love, enriching our common life and becoming faithful followers of Christ. We feel called to reach out to neighbors needing support through education, workshops, charitable works, and potentially opening the church building to weekday use by support groups such as Moms of Preschoolers (MOPs). We also hope to call a pastor who will live locally and become an active part of the community, helping us to better understand emerging needs and how we might meet them.

How will this position help you to reach your vision and mission goals:

Our congregation enjoyed stable leadership for 12 years until our last pastor retired. While we are very much alive in our ministries, focused on members and worship, and committed to our missions, we experienced a gradual decline in membership during that time. We may have been too quick to dismiss it as part of the general downturn in the PC(USA). We want to expand our connection to the local community through an increased focus on communication, outreach, and service. We seek a pastor who will help us achieve this goal and be an active member of the community.

We are already taking steps to improve our local engagement, and our next pastor will motivate us to continue and increase these efforts. We want to enrich our congregation by actively including more of our neighbors, particularly families with elementary and middle school-aged children. This, in turn, will enrich both their lives and ours through genuine, caring relationships and a more meaningful spiritual journey.

Our commitment to excellent preaching implies a focus on spiritual relevance for local seekers, and we see the pastor having an important role in our spiritual development through education, worship, prayer, and pastoral care. We must reach those around us with an affirming and inclusive message that God is real and working among us all, and that we are all God's children.

Provide a description of the characteristics needed by the person who is open to being called to this congregation and or organization:

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We seek a candidate with the following characteristics:

- An experienced pastor who can lead and grow our church in faith, servanthood, and membership
- A leader who effects change with diplomacy, sensitivity, and tact
- Keen intellect
- Spiritual maturity
- The ability to develop and lead members into deeper, genuine relationships with each other and with the church
- The ability and desire to cultivate new relationships and associations that enable stronger connections with the local community
- Energy and passion
- A bias towards action
- A willingness and ability to identify, face, and work to mitigate conflict
- The ability to link God's word to relevance in our daily lives
- A good sense of humor; we are joyful!
- Strong social skills: the ability to communicate and connect with people
- An active, engaged listener
- A compassionate and sensitive spirit open to forgiveness and reconciliation
- A balance between heart and head (spirituality and intellect); our chosen pastor will both exhibit and promote this parity
- Recognition of the value of helping people in the church to identify, develop, and use their own inherent gifts for ministry, both within and outside of the church
- The desire and drive to expand educational programs at the church, particularly for adults, including the creation and growth of small-group programs
- A sound grasp of Reformed theology

What specific tasks, assignments, and program areas will this person have responsibility?

Our new pastor will:

- Deliver thought-provoking, personally relevant sermons that inspire congregants to model the life of Christ
- Create a worship experience that is uplifting, challenging, moving, and relevant to the congregation and visitors
- Guide worship planning, lead most worship services, and administer the sacraments
- Advance our strategic vision, coordinated across all leaders and ministry areas; assess progress in achieving that vision
- Supervise one administrative assistant in day-to-day church operations
- Supervise and guide our Director of Christian Education and Director of Music
- Coach, mentor, and support Session and other lay leaders
- Provide pastoral counsel; visit and comfort the distressed and their families, and inspire members to become involved in the caring process
- Foster personal relationships with and among congregants and help reinforce their connection to the church
- Represent PCIS in the community and develop relationships with area clergy and secular leaders
- Represent PCIS at the Presbytery of Boston
- Participate, as needed, in the following:
 - Confirmation classes
 - Officer training
 - Worship services at a local nursing home one afternoon each month
 - Deacon meetings
- Support and attend church fellowship events, fundraisers, etc.
- Encourage the prayer life of the congregation

Optional Links:

Leadership Competencies:

Preaching and Worship Leadership

Spiritual Maturity

Communicator

Strategy and Vision

Collaboration

Interpersonal Engagement

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Compensation and Housing: Cost of Living Calculator

Minimum Effective Salary: \$65,000

Housing Type: Housing Allowance

References:

Name	Address	Phone Numbers	Relation	Email
Rev. R. Wayne Parrish	upon request	617-939-6006	Former General Presbyter, Honorably Retired	rwayneparrish@gmail.com
Rev. Susan L. DeHoff, PhD	upon request	508-845-5005	Member of Presbytery of Boston (and former member)	sldehoff@verizon.net
Ed Pichon	upon request	469-733-4273	Former member of PCIS	ed.pichon@gmail.com

Has the Pastor Nominating Committee and Search committee affirmed its intention to follow the Form Of Government in this regard?

Yes

Version Track Info: This MIF was last updated on 03/06/2017

Self-referral Contact Information

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