

Position: Pastor, University Friends Meeting
1840 University ST
Wichita, KS 67213

Type: Full-time Pastoral Leader
Opening July 2021

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience. The package will include vacation pay health insurance. Housing will be addressed based on needs.

Time frame: University Friends will be reviewing applications beginning May? 2021

University Friends Meeting has been in existence for 120 years. In that time, we have been continuously affiliated with Evangelical Friends Church of North America, or what preceded that branch of Friends. Since 1970 we have also been a member of Friends United Meeting. Although this dual membership is no longer an option, University Friends still seeks to be a bridge between all Friends groups. In May 2020 we chose as a congregation to continue as a member of the Great Plains Yearly Meeting in FUM.

In a recent all church retreat we boiled our vision statement down to this:

“God is calling us to be a loving, unified, serving community, listening and proclaiming the leading of the Holy Spirit, being a light to the world. We know we have a unique role in our world and our time.”

Our worship style is programmed with a sermon expectation of 12-15 minutes with an extended period of silent worship, communion in the manner of Friends following the message. We are always receptive to allow worship time to evolve as the Spirit directs.

We enjoy a good relationship with nearby Friends University. We are currently in the process of establishing a shared usage agreement of our facility at this time.

In our last full year of in person worship, 2019, we had an average attendance of 87 people per week. We have people in every age bracket from children to senior citizens. From a high in attendance in the early 1960s of around 400, University Friends has been declining in attendance to what it is today.

Our previous pastor of 25 years resigned in June 2019. Since that time, we have been primarily served by two interim pastors. The most recent (and current) is an intentional interim pastor, who arrived in January 2020. Under her leadership, we have faced critical issues that faced our congregation. Through this process, we have become better prepared to move forward as a vital, functioning body of faithful Christians.

We are seeking a pastor who is spirit-led with a desire to serve Christ in our community. A Friends background and education are important to our congregation. A leader with skills in administration and the ability to find a way forward in adversity are qualities we are looking for. University Friends seeks to grow spiritually as individuals and stronger together as a congregation.

Interested candidates should apply by resume with cover letter and references to universityfriends@sbcglobal.net.