

**July 1, 2017**

**HEARTLAND CHURCH OF CHRIST JOB OPENING**

**POSITION: Pulpit Minister**

**TYPE: Full-Time**

**COMPENSATION: Based on experience, qualifications, and education.**

**QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES: See attached Minister Profile**

**HOW TO APPLY: Interested candidates should send a resume, references, and a letter of introduction to: [search@heartlandchurch.us](mailto:search@heartlandchurch.us), questions and inquiries may also be directed to this email. Candidates will remain confidential and references will only be contacted with permission.**

**Clark Morris is the search committee chair and may be contacted at (816)686-0841 or [morrisc@william.jewell.edu](mailto:morrisc@william.jewell.edu)**

## **Heartland Church of Christ**

6120 NW Prairie View Road

Kansas City, MO 64151

816-457-6900

[www.heartlandchurch.us](http://www.heartlandchurch.us)

## **Prospective Minister Information Packet**

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# Heartland Church of Christ History

The Heartland Church of Christ, formerly known as the Gladstone Church of Christ, was founded in 1964. The first worship service was held there on March 29th, at the building at 5703 N Flora, in Gladstone Missouri. The Gladstone Church of Christ remained at the Flora building for over 40 years.

During its time in Gladstone, the church employed eight different ministers; Dale Chilton (1961-1969), Ray Beasley (1969-1970), Bob Nave (1970-1971), Layton Plaster (1971-1980), Phil Kinzer (1980-1989), Jim Martin (1990-1993), Bob Kirkley (1994-1999) and Kevin Bullard (1999-2006). In 1985, the Independent Christian Academy of the Northland (ICAN), a Christian daycare and preschool was established, which remains in operation today as the Heartland Christian Day Care/ Preschool.

In 1993 there was a split at Gladstone Church of Christ. After a decade of regrowth in membership, it was determined in 2004 that more space and a more visible location for the building were needed. The "Immeasurably More" campaign was launched, with the intention of buying land and building a new church building. However, within a relatively short amount of time, an existing church building in a prime area that was on the market was located and purchased. In March, 2005, the Gladstone Church of Christ relocated to the building at 6120 NW Prairie View Road in Kansas City, Missouri, and was renamed the Heartland Church of Christ.

The Heartland Church of Christ has been at the current location for 12 years, where we have employed three ministers; Kevin Bullard (1999-2006), Todd Truax (2006-2015) and Tony Dishman (2015-2016), who was previously the youth/associate minister for the 10 years leading up to the time he took over as pulpit minister. Upon Tony's resignation, John Turner took over as interim minister, and has agreed to serve as pulpit minister for the time we are searching for a full time permanent minister, or until he acquires a full time pulpit minister position.

During our time here, we have maintained the Heartland Christian Day Care/ Preschool, and in 2011 established a Spanish speaking ministry. Today we have a thriving Spanish speaking congregation within our body with approximately 50 members, who have been led by Spanish speaking ministers, Dario Domingo, Daniel Mata, and currently, Leo Martinez.

Throughout the lifetime of the Gladstone/Heartland Church of Christ we have held a membership of roughly 100 members at the lowest, to up to 300 members at the height of membership. We currently have approximately 200 members.

# Heartland Church of Christ Today

## Leaders and Paid Staff

- We are led by five Elders: Stan Harris, Paul Myers, Ted Phillips, Mark Stanley and Dempsey Yearry
- Our 16 Deacons perform duties in the areas of education, administration, benevolence, elderly care, worship, fellowship, missions and building/grounds.
- The Administrative Team is made up of five deacons appointed by the eldership to oversee the general administrative functions of the church including finance, legal, budgeting and security.
- John Turner is our interim pulpit minister.
- Jeff Adair is our paid full-time youth minister.
- Jerome Harris is our worship leader and is paid a part-time salary.
- Leo Martinez is the full-time minister for the Hispanic congregation.
- Sharon Hutsler is the office administrator.

## Ministries

- Heartland Christian Daycare and Preschool provides a Christian education to children ages 2 ½ to 5 years. The school is overseen by a board consisting of members of the Heartland congregation and one Elder.
- Heartland provides weekend food to approximately 80 local elementary school children in need through the Backsnack program.
- We sponsor one to two apartments through Hillcrest Transitional Housing. This program helps families get back on their feet by providing temporary housing and strict budget planning.
- A team of missionaries from Heartland travels to El Salvador several times a year to support the needs and administration of the growing La Palma Christian School. The school is sponsored on a monthly basis by the church and several members sponsor a child that attends LPCS.
- In an Asian country, a couple is also supported as they serve and work to be a light among the local people.
- Heartland has several small group ministries including a Tuesday morning ladies Bible class, Heartfelt Sisters and many community outreach events such as an Easter egg hunt, Trunk or Treat and pictures and visits with Santa.

## Congregation

- Heartland consists of a diverse group of approximately 200 members. About 40% are 57 years or older. Almost 35% of our members have been attending services here for 20 or more years. More than half of our congregation travels over 10 minutes to worship at Heartland.
- The Iglesia de Cristo en Kansas City is our Hispanic ministry consisting of approximately 50 members. The group meets at alternate times from the English speaking service.

## **Worship**

- Our worship includes a cappella singing led by a worship leader and a mic'd praise team seated in the audience.
- Heartland has had an effective Greeter Ministry for a couple of years that includes many of our members.
- Our children (ages 2 ½ to 5) are dismissed before the lesson to their own Preschool Praise program. A staffed nursery is also available for children under the age of 2 ½.
- We meet for class at 9:15am Sunday and 7:00pm Wednesday and for worship on Sunday at 10:15am.

## **Budget**

- Heartland's annual budget is approximately \$425K.
- Our average weekly contribution is \$7600.

## **Kansas City**

- Our city has a lot to offer! Besides almost being the geographical center of the U.S., Kansas City is home to several professional sports teams (with fierce fans!): Kansas City Royals baseball, Kansas City Chiefs football and Sporting KC soccer. The Kansas Speedway hosts major NASCAR events.
- Many of the school districts near Heartland are highly rated for a quality education.
- Kansas City is known for its BBQ! Restaurants specializing in this treat are too numerous to mention.
- We have an amazing cultural scene with theatre, symphony, ballet and a rich jazz heritage. Families can enjoy time together at our two theme parks: Worlds of Fun and Oceans of Fun.
- Kansas City is home to many landmarks including upscale shopping at the Country Club Plaza, Union Station and the National WWI Museum and Memorial. You can even hit the slopes in the winter at Snow Creek ski resort.
- Spring and Summer bring many Farmer's Markets downtown and in surrounding communities.

# Heartland Church of Christ Minister Profile

## An Ideal Candidate will:

- Be a Bible Scholar, spending time in personal study and prayer (*Eph 3:21, 1 Tim 4:15, Tim 2:15, Acts 4:31*).
- Hold a bachelor's or master's degree in theology OR a secular bachelor's degree with continued education in theology (*2 Tim 2:15*).
- Have at least five years of experience as the full-time pulpit minister in a growing and thriving congregation (*2 Tim 2:1-7; 4:1-5*).
- Be a "people person"; demonstrating a warm, caring, rational and welcoming personality (*Phil 2:1-8; 1 Tim 5:1*). Seek out relationship with members to mentor future leaders, provide a reasonable degree of pastoral care and visitation.
- Be team-oriented: At ease with different age groups and ethnic groups. Exercise leadership as a team player in partnership with the elders and deacons (*1 Cor 9:6-14; Phil 1:5-7, 2 Tim 2:1-2, & 24; 2 Tim 4:2*).
- Be evangelistic in his own life and mentor/nurture the desire and ability to become evangelists in the congregation as a whole (*2 Tim 4:5*).
- Be passionate for the gospel. Demonstrate a close personal walk with the Lord and live the gospel in his own daily life (*2 Tim 4:2, 1 Tim 4:12, 1 Tim 6:12, Titus 2:7-8*).
- Have some experience in missions, whether foreign or domestic (*Mt 28:19, Eph 4:11-12, 1 Tim 4:5, Rom 10:14-18*).
- Be experienced in organizing and facilitating a Small Group Ministry (*Titus 2:2-5, Acts 20:17, 26-27*).
- Have the gift of teaching – make Bible class lessons relatable (*Mt 28:20; 1 Tim 4:13, Acts 17:2, Heb 12:5*).
- Be a Dynamic Preacher – one who knows God's word and uses scripture to equip members for ministry and challenge us to be more Christ-like (*Eph 4:11-13; 2 Tim 3:16-17*). Sermons should be presented in an energetic, clear and applicable manner that relates to different age groups and life situations. Use of inspiring and inclusive terms such as "let us be a people who..." both inspire and call members to action (*2 Tim 4:2, Acts 14:3*).
- Develop relationships with surrounding Churches of Christ and local community organizations (*Acts 8:31, Acts 9:27; Acts 13:42; Gal 6:10*).
- Be of sound doctrine: Preach Jesus raised from the dead as the power of God to bring salvation to all (*Rom 1:16-17; 2 Tim 2:8*). Call us to share Jesus in our lives and our words with those around us (*Gal 1:10, Titus 2:1, Titus 3; Eph 4:15*).

## Some additional desirable characteristics may include:

- Be happily married and a parent. Demonstrate a strong commitment to spouse and children (*Eph 5:33; 2 Tim 3:14-15; Eph 6:1-4*).

- Have a family who is supportive of the minister's role at Heartland Church of Christ. Heartland supports our minister taking time to maintain a positive and healthy family life (*Rom 12: 4-13; Eph 5:33; Eph 6:4*).
- Demonstrate an interest in understanding Heartland; its history, its present, its current ministries; and help create a vision to build on the foundations that have been laid.
- Have some counseling experience (*Luke 4:18-19; Acts 16:40; Acts 8:3; Acts 20:28*); Be intentional about knowing members and be available to counsel those in need of spiritual guidance.
- Spanish speaking a plus. Heartland has a vibrant Spanish ministry and seeks to bolster and bless that work through encouraging strong bonds between the Spanish speaking and English speaking services.