

**Position Description
for the
Executive Conference Minister
of the
Southern New England Conference, United Church of Christ**

Title: Executive Conference Minister

The Executive Conference Minister of the Southern New England Conference (SNEC) shall serve this Conference as the standard bearer for our core vision, mission and identity to lead the United Church of Christ in Southern New England to:

- Empower local churches of the Conference to make disciples of Jesus;
- Make God's love and justice real by living the love and justice of Jesus;
- Encourage adaptive and transformational leadership that is faithful to our still creating God;
- Form covenant partnerships with all who work for the common good in their local communities and throughout the world.

in accordance with the policies established by the Conference and its Board of Directors.

Authority and Accountability:

- Derives spiritual authority from the call of God in Jesus Christ, and the Holy Scriptures.
- Derives ecclesiastical authority from the Bylaws of the SNE UCC, the actions of meetings of the Conference, and the decisions of the Board of Directors.
- Accounts to the Board of Directors and the meeting of the Conference, and thus to the member churches.
- Reports at least once annually to the Conference and regularly to the Board of Directors.

Responsibilities with the Southern New England Conference include:

- Serving as the chief vision keeper, such that both within and outside the Conference, it will be clear who we are and why we exist as the United Church of Christ in southern New England;
- Serving as the chief communicator of the Conference, articulating and leading the Conference toward a theologically-informed, gospel-centered vision of God's call for our time and place, as articulated in the Together, As One Vision Statement (attached);
- Serving as the chief strategist of the Conference, assuring that the Board of Directors and lead staff continue to use the vision of the Conference to direct the activities of the Conference now and in years to come;

- Working with Conference staff, the SNEC Board of Directors to give witness to issues of Christian concern;
- Embodying the spirit and ethos of the United Church of Christ in all working relationships.
- Ensuring processes by which fiscal soundness and administrative effectiveness can be achieved and maintained in the Conference;
- Performing such work as mandated by the Bylaws, by the actions of the Conference, and by the decisions of the Board of Directors;

Responsibilities beyond the Southern New England Conference include:

- Serving as the chief philanthropy officer, cultivating individuals and organizations at the CEO level to become major donors to SNEC;
- Providing a shaping presence in the United Church of Christ at regional and national settings, providing liaison with national agencies and ministries of the United Church of Christ.
- Representing the Southern New England Conference in ecumenical, interfaith, and public gatherings as appropriate, and providing leadership as needed;
- Developing ecumenical, interfaith and secular covenant partnerships with all who work for the common good in their local communities and throughout the world;
- Serving as the public face of the Conference to the state, region, and nation in the media and in the public square;
- Cultivating understanding, trust, hospitality and cooperation with all our mission and ministry partners to strengthen our collective outreach to the world that God in Christ calls us to be.

Required qualifications

- Excellent communicator
- Proven fund raiser
- Strategic thinker
- Connector of people
- Seeker of common ground
- Well versed in UCC history / polity / governance
- Proven track record of leadership

Qualified candidate:

- May be ordained in the United Church of Christ or ordained to one of the UCC covenant partners OR may be a lay person who must be an active member of a UCC church
- Graduate degree or equivalent experience

TOGETHER, AS ONE

*Speaking the truth in love,
we must grow up in every way into the one who is the head – into Christ –
from whom the whole body,
joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped,
as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.
~ Ephesians 4:15-16 ~*



Following Jesus' call to discipleship, and bound by the covenant we share as siblings in Christ, we – the members of the United Church of Christ in southern New England – declare these values essential to our shared ministry together:

We understand the local church exists to make disciples of Jesus and we welcome all people unconditionally to share in this calling.

We commit to making God's love and justice real by loving our neighbors, children, and all of creation through our collective work, such as seeking racial, economic, environmental, and LGBTQ justice.

We believe God calls us to bring new life as agents of change and so we embrace and encourage adaptive and transformative leadership wherever the Body of Christ is gathered.

We encourage local congregations and varied ministry settings, inspired and guided by the Holy Spirit, to form covenant partnerships with all who work for the common good in their local communities and throughout the world.

*I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth,
do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.*

~ Isaiah 43:19 ~

*In union with the entire United Church of Christ,
we respond to Jesus' call and strive to live our faith by:*

God's Vision:

United in Christ's love, a just world for all.

The Church's Mission:

United in Spirit and inspired by God's grace, we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all.

Our Purpose:

To love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength
and our neighbor as ourselves.

Our United Covenant:

Living the Love and Justice of Jesus.

