



## Desert Southwest Conference Clear Openings Listing January 11, 2022

### **East District**                      **St. Paul's UMC – Globe, AZ – Lead Pastor – ½ Time**

Worship Attendance: 30 – This historic mining town sits east of metropolitan Phoenix. This church is committed to its mission work. Innovation and creativity will be needed for the next pastor of this congregation to empower the church to move into its missional calling, expanding individual engagement to reach new people beyond the church walls.

### **East District**                      **First UMC – Gilbert, AZ – Associate Pastor – ½ Time**

Worship Attendance: 350 – Gilbert is one of Arizona's fastest growing multi-generational communities to the Town of Gilbert's website – "approximately 70% of Gilbert's psychographic make-up consists of Up and Coming Families, Boomburbs, and Soccer Moms." The church campus has gone through a major update and is now looking for a ½ time associate pastor who will empower the people to go to the next level in offering ministry to not only those in the church, but also those in need in the community.

### **North District**                      **Hope UMC – Bullhead City, AZ – Lead Pastor – Full Time**

Worship Attendance: 50 – Hope UMC regained its stability and stopped a steep decline pre-Covid and as a result of the Pandemic is again challenged to sustain a full-time appointment and cost of facility. However, they have a strong vibrancy in spirit and outreach with an increasing return of activity since the height of Covid. They have created effective partnerships with community agencies and faith communities in serving the needs of persons in the community.

### **North District**                      **Federated Community Church – Flagstaff, AZ – Lead Pastor – Full Time**

Worship Attendance: 60+ -- Flagstaff Federated Community Church is located near historic downtown Flagstaff, the Northern Arizona University (NAU) campus, and hub of community gathering. Federated Church is a community clear in its focus and calling as a family of progressive Christian faith, seeking awareness, challenging injustice, loving, and serving with courage. The congregation's value of diversity is reflected in being multi-denominational: United Methodist, Presbyterian (U.S.A.), and Community. Staff and leadership team formation is important as the church seeks to strengthen connections within church and community.

### **North District**                      **Page Community UMC – Page, AZ – Lead Pastor – ½ Time**

Worship Attendance: 15 - Page Community UMC is a small-town ministry in a spectacular setting alongside several national parks. In recent years the community has experienced significant change and decline in its economy. There is a developing partnership with neighboring Episcopal Church which shares common vision and inclusivity. Pastoral leadership is needed in continuing to develop and expand the ministry of the laity and reach new people

### **West District**                      **First UMC – Sun City, AZ – Lead Pastor – Full Time**

Worship Attendance: 80 Virtual Attendance: 150 - This Church is in a retirement community serving the Sun City, Youngtown, and Peoria communities. A church that shows friendliness and openness to first time guests. Exceptionally good worship services with wonderful music program. Mission-minded concern for the community and hospital/bound visitation.

### **West District**                      **Shepherd of the Hills UMC - Sun City West, AZ – Lead Pastor – Full Time**

Worship Attendance: 350 - This dynamic community of faith sits in the center of an active retirement community. Key efforts recently have focused on developing more diverse and engaging opportunities for spiritual growth, becoming more invitational and inclusive, and establishing a strong lay driven care ministry. The church found exciting ways to thrive during the pandemic, bringing in new members while continuing to expand their reach into the community. The next pastor is called to empower staff and laity to continue to find creative ways to continue expanding ministries within the church and to the greater community.

**West District**

**Shepherd of the Hills UMC - Sun City West, AZ –Assistant Minister of Care - ½ Time**

Worship Attendance: 350 - This dynamic community of faith sits in the center of an active retirement community. The church is developing an active lay lead caring ministry among members facing the many challenges of aging, which often brings experiences of loss and grief. The ½ time Assistant Minister of Care will focus on pre and post bereavement care: hospice, memorial services, and grief support, while also serving as an active member of the Care Team for the whole congregation.