

Ministry General Information

Ministry Name	Presbytery	Synod
Avenue Church NYC Presbyterian Church (endowed by Jan Hus Presbyterian Church)	New York City	The Northeast
Email	Preferred Phone	Website Address
info@avenuechurchnyc.org	212-288-7724	www.avenuechurchnyc.org
Mailing Address	Alternate Phone/Email	Community Type
1745 1st Ave, New York, NY 10128		Urban
Congregation or Organization Size	Curriculum	Average Worship Attendance
Church School Attendance		
Intercultural Composition		
White: 68%, Multiracial: 13%, Hispanic/Latinx: 7%, Black/African American/African: 6%, Asian/Pacific Islander/South Asian: 6%		

Information about the Position

Position Requirements

Position Type(s)

Solo Pastor: Installed

Experience Required

5 to 10 Years

Employment Status

Full-time

Training/Certificate Requirements

Interim Ministry Training

Conflict Mediator Training

Language Requirements

English

Spanish

Other Languages

English is our Primary Language. Spanish is Very helpful. Mandarin also very Helpful.

Statement of Faith required?

Yes

Are you open to a clergy couple?

Yes

Ministry Requirements

Church Mission/Vision Statement

Our faith journey is founded upon these strong
Core Values: * We are a praying, joyful
community, engaging our faith traditions with
relentless works predicated on love! * We are an

inclusive community, thriving on our diversity and commitment to building up one another and the world by embracing antiracist, feminist, gender affirming and culturally inclusive perspectives including people of all abilities and those who are differently-abled. * We are a welcoming community, an open door for the stranger, the immigrant along with friends from other religious backgrounds and nationalities. Guided by the Hand of God, our Faith in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior and through the Wisdom of the Holy Spirit, along with your partnership, we at avenue church look forward to expressing our faith in exciting, new and glorious ways!

Tasks, expectations, duties, supervision, assignments, and responsibilities for the position

This question is answered more fully in the MDP Narratives section further along in this profile.

MDP - Narratives

List any links that support the answers to your narratives or highlights ministries within your church/organization.

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Our congregation's website: www.avenueschurchnyc.org

How would you describe the congregation's/organization's specific vision for ministry? How will this vision impact the community? Is the congregation part of a ministry vision or program?

Our specific vision for ministry at Avenue Church NYC is "to provide a diverse, open and safe community encouraging spiritual growth, nurturing and developing the gifts individuals' possess. We seek to be a constant presence in God's service while seeking the justice, liberation and hospitality of Jesus." We create nurturing spaces where all are welcome to actively participate in worship, no matter one's race, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or social or economic circumstances. A charter member of the More Light network of individual congregations within our national denomination, we continue our advocacy efforts to empower the LGBTQ+AI community and their allies to integrate their spiritual, gender and sexual identities through a range of programs aimed at enriching their ministry and witness of the Church.

Provide a description of the skills, gifts and training the person you hope will become a part of your ministry must have, to lead the congregation towards the vision and mission established.

We are looking to call a "parish pastor" skilled in understanding that, while we are Christians, we are also unabashed New Yorkers, representing vast slices of humanity amalgamated in a fast-paced setting. To this end, the gift of flexibility will be greatly appreciated in our next pastor, especially when those situations call for "being in the moment." Conflict resolution is always a plus; as someone said, somewhat in jest: "Hey, we're New Yorkers!" With many of our new members having joined during this Transitional Period, we see the benefit of some Interim Pastor Training providing a window into better-understanding the perspective of these new members as prelude to some of the tasks outlined in the next section.

What areas of ministry do you expect the person called to be responsible for? Share specific tasks, assignments, and programs.

We want to hear our next pastor describe their practical experiences building a congregation(s) and how they will share our vision for our growth as a community of faith. A May 2023 study by Pew Research confirms our common knowledge: most U.S. parents pass along their religion and politics to their children [[www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2023/05/10/most-us-parents-pass-along-their-religion.](http://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2023/05/10/most-us-parents-pass-along-their-religion/)] We want to re-imagine “Sunday School” programming attractive to families with children, an engaging curriculum for “Youth,” plus events geared for various groups of “Grown Ups.” Among the duties and tasks for our next pastor: * Provide spiritual guidance to congregants by anchoring meaningful worship services Draft and deliver engaging Sermons at least three times a month As a church leader, positively and consistently represent our faith Assist with community outreach via various digital communication platforms, especially personal, one-to-one interactions Oversee small group gatherings, such as prayer and bible study Moderate Session; counsel our Deacons Develop programs encouraging spiritual growth Plan religious activities and events Work to deflate conflict by facilitating encouragement With our next pastor living in our manse, we anticipate their overseeing the building’s management without being “the Super.” In other words, while the infrastructure is relatively young, some practical “homeowner” skills will come in handy, such as knowing where to shut off the water main should a pipe burst, as well as awareness of the gas main, electric panels and fire alarm system.

How will this call help complement the responsibilities of other staff/volunteer positions, and the life of the congregation/organization, so that you may accomplish your short and long-term goals for ministry?

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We remain committed to welcoming many of these newer residents who fall into the category first described by the Pew Research Organization as the “Nones:” people spiritual in nature yet reluctant to join any particular congregation in any particular denomination. The challenges revealed a decade ago by Pew were underscored in May 2023 by the non-partisan Public Religion Research Institute [www.prrri.org]: “Religion is less important for Americans today than it was a decade ago. Today, 16% of Americans say that religion is the most important thing in their life, 36% say religion is one among many important things, 18% say religion is not important as other things, and 29% say religion is not important to them. In 2013, Americans were more likely to say that religion was either the most important thing in their life (20%) or one among many important things (43%), while 15% said that religion was not as important as other things, and 19% said religion was not important.” Avenue Church NYC vows to continue being “awake” to how and where we can have the greatest impact on the lives of “we:” the people that we meet in our neighborhood, especially when real world events can easily make all of us forget that the plural “we” matters, that “we” are all vital parts of New York City, New York State, the United States of America and the world as a whole.

What is the nature and context of the community in which your congregation lives out its mission/vision? How will you address the emerging needs that are impacting your community?

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Since 1877, Avenue Church NYC, first known as Bohemian Brethren Presbyterian Church, has been based in the Upper East Side community of Yorkville, one of Manhattan's oldest working-class neighborhoods. In 1915 the Neighborhood House expanded our 1888 Sanctuary and outreach efforts under a new name: Jan Hus Presbyterian Church. Today, the Urban Outreach Center, "grandchild" of these initial efforts, stands as a 501 (C) 3 not-for-profit; in calendar year 2022 alone the UOC prepped/served more than a million meals! The Second Avenue subway spurred renewed gentrification. Luxury real estate developments replace affordable housing found in century-old low-rise buildings; there is an unfortunate rise in housing-insecurity and homelessness. Despite 145 years of Yorkville-based history, we're still "the new kid on the block" due to the unfortunate collision of the planned 2020 opening of our new home on First Avenue with the eruption of COVID 19. Thus, we're still introducing ourselves to, and engaging with, our new neighbors who, anecdotally, have been very receptive judging by their respectful participation/contributions to our sidewalk "community prayer board." New church members' energies are enlivening our congregation, especially our monthly Wednesday prayer service. Along with our longer-tenured members, their fresh eyes are rejuvenating our founders' tradition of presenting arts and entertainment events for the broader community, such as Open-Mic Nights, providing musicians opportunities to add a "New York City" venue to their résumés.

Compensation & Housing

Minimum Effective Salary

121812

Housing Type

Manse

References

Reference #1

Rev Dr Robert Gamble
Validated Ministry to children
and families in Odess Ukraine
8282336864
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Reference #2

Rev Vendula Glancova
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Reference #3

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