



Opportunity for Ministry

UU Falmouth, a Unitarian Universalist congregation located in Falmouth MA, is seeking a half-time contract minister. The contract is expected to be for one year, renewable. The start date is flexible. The salary & housing are estimated to be at the midpoint of the UUA's recommended range (\$46,750), with UUA recommended benefits.

After having full-time ministry from 1989 to 2023, the congregation is now without professional ministry but is hungry for it. The congregation is organizing its own worship services with volunteers and guest ministers, continuing its successful lay pastoral programs, and supporting its part-time staff (music director, pianist, administrator, and bookkeeper). The congregation plans to resume having a settled full-time minister starting in 2027.

The ideal candidate will be an inspiring preacher who calls us to live out more fully our Unitarian Universalist values as individuals and a congregation; a warm, welcoming, and positive presence who demonstrates empathy and caring for our members and for our success as a spiritual community; and a leader who can stretch our imagination about what is possible for our congregation.

The congregation is open to conversation with candidates about the specific duties of the position. We understand the importance of a clear description of roles and limits, so that the minister can be successful and not subject to unreasonable expectations. With a half-time position, we envision that the roles will likely include responsibility for worship (preaching twice a month and advising our Religious Services Committee); advising our active lay pastoral teams; pastoral outreach to members experiencing major life transitions; attending monthly board meetings, and availability for weddings and memorial services. The board is currently managing the staff directly and is willing to continue to do so. We are open to conversation about staff supervision and will be responsive to the chosen candidate's preference.

UU Falmouth consists of 158 members, over 50 "friends," and 103 pledge units. The congregation budget is \$298K in 2023-24 and estimated to be \$312K in 2024-25, supported by the 2023-24 and 2024-25 pledge drives which were the most successful in its history. The congregation does not currently have an RE program for children. It is a certified LGBTQ Welcoming and Green Sanctuary congregation. It is also recognized as an Honor Congregation by the Unitarian Universalist Association, which means it contributes its expected share of financial support to its denomination. It was organized in 1959 as a fellowship and has had full-time settled or interim ministry continuously from 1989 to 2023.

Falmouth is a town of 33,000 people located in the southwest portion of Cape Cod. The town is home to the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, the Marine Biological Laboratory and other scientific organizations. The summer seasonal population, and the town's status as the gateway to Martha's Vineyard, help the town support high-quality cultural activities and restaurants as well as beaches and recreational opportunities. It is home to the Falmouth Road Race, the Falmouth Commodores baseball team, and an excellent public education system.

For a conversation about the position contact the search chairperson, Larry Ladd, at ladd.larry@gmail.com