



**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**

*Where God's Love is for Everyone!*

# PASTORAL EMPLOYMENT PACKET

**160 Tracy Street, Suite 4A, Athens, GA 30601**

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

P.O. Box 48713, Athens, GA 30604 • Phone: (706) 207-3677

**INTERNET INFORMATION:**

E-mail: [ourhope1999@gmail.com](mailto:ourhope1999@gmail.com) • Web Site: [www.ourhopemcc.org](http://www.ourhopemcc.org)  
[www.facebook.com/ourhopemccathens](http://www.facebook.com/ourhopemccathens)



Dear Pastor,

Thank you for your consideration in joining our spiritual journey. We, the members and friends of Our Hope MCC, are thankful that God has been speaking to us and to you. We have been preparing ourselves for our next chapter in ministry, continuing to think globally and act locally with our next pastor in mind. We seek an engaging preacher who delivers messages that are culturally competent, pertinent to our lives and that encourage, comfort and challenge us spiritually. We value experience, and open-minded nature, an appreciation of cultural diversity, and leadership in the larger community.

Over the last 18 years as a community of faith, we have celebrated each other's gifts and joys, contributed significantly to the global mission of MCC, and endured challenges. We believe in accepting a wide array of perspectives and personas, and with God's help we pray that our next pastor will inspire and empower us toward achieving a vision and mission that is God centered. In sum, we seek a spiritual leader with a pastor's touch and unifying presence who will communicate an energetic message of faithful service. We believe that the right pastor will reveal the image of God in each of us.

We hope you will find this information helpful in getting to know us better. If you feel called to the position of our next settled pastor, you may complete the application and email to [ourhope1999@gmail.com](mailto:ourhope1999@gmail.com) or mail to P.O. Box 48713, Athens, GA 30604. Feel free to call Tommie Black at 706-207-3677. You may also visit our Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/OurHopeMCC](http://www.facebook.com/OurHopeMCC). Let us hold each other in prayer.

With great anticipation, we are emerging into our destiny: "A Radically Inclusive and Spirit Filled People dedicated to Serving Others."

Love and Peace,

Pastoral Search Committee  
Chair Person

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## **BRIEF HISTORY**

The seed for Our Hope was planted at an Atlanta MCC Bible Study in 1999. The first meeting was held in the Athens's home of Tommie Black and Patty Compton. The first service was held in August 1999 at the Holiday Inn in Downtown Athens. For the next 16 years Our Hope rented various spaces for the Sunday Services. In August of 2016 Our Hope moved into a more permanent 24/7 space on Tracy Street in Athens. In this space we are able to have functions during the week as well as Sunday Services. The founding Pastor served for nearly 17 years before moving on.

## **OUR COMMUNITY**

Athens, Georgia, is a gay-friendly city. Of the 25 U.S. metro areas with the highest percentage of gay and lesbian households, two are in Georgia. Athens is one and Atlanta is the other. According to an article in Advocate magazine, which caters to the LGBTQ community, Atlanta is the "gayest" city in America. And Atlanta is very close to Athens (only 1½ hours away) so night life, as well as cultural activities in Atlanta, can be considered a benefit of living in Athens.

Athens is the home of the University of Georgia. UGA fosters an open-minded, tolerant population, as does the edgy arts, theater, and live-music scene, which has cultivated such queer-relevant musical acts as the B-52s, the Indigo Girls, Wide Spread Panic, Drive By Truckers and R.E.M. (out rocker Michael Stipe resides in Athens). The 313 acre State Botanical Gardens of Georgia is located in Athens - it was set aside by UGA in 1968 for the study and enjoyment of plants and nature. It contains a number of specialized theme gardens and collections, more than five miles of nature trails, and four major facilities including a tropical conservatory. The Georgia Museum of Art at UGA has been, since 1982, the official state art museum.

There are many LGBTQ resources in Athens and Our Hope MCC is included in a list of these resources (<https://www.athenspride.org/lgbtq-resources/>).

There are numerous restaurants and cultural activities available throughout Athens. All of the information about Athens can be found on multiple web pages if you do a Google Search for Athens, Georgia. You can narrow down your search to particular areas of interest by including other terms in your search.

Events in Athens include Twilight Criterion (Bike Race), AthFest (Musical Festival), Athens Pride and more. Please visit web site [www.visitathensga.com](http://www.visitathensga.com) for additional information.

## **PASTORAL EXPECTATIONS**

Our Hope MCC seeks a Pastor who will be a teacher, preacher and spiritual leader of the congregation. Regular hours of availability to the congregations members is very important so that we can get to know our new Pastor and he/she can get to know us. S/he will be a leader for the Our Hope MCC Council and a strong component of our Outreach Programs to UGA Students and the community.

## WORSHIP AND OUTREACH

Our Hope MCC seeks to offer the Love of GOD to Everyone with A Special Focus on The LGBT Community. We are committed to applied spirituality that focuses on Loving GOD, Loving Our Neighbors as We Love Ourselves, and Treating others the same way we would like to be treated.

There are Lay Minsters at Our Hope to provide prayer in the times of need in a person's life to help them keep their faith intact as well as provide possible ways to assist them.

We have an Angel Patrol team at Our Hope that goes out and delivers food and clothing to the homeless during the winter months.

The Hunger Bowl is a special event in Athens. Annually as many as 100 teams across North East Georgia compete against each other to raise money and food to raise awareness to fight against hunger. We have won twice.

Athens Pride is held in Athens every year. This year it is the 2nd weekend in September Our Hope has a booth at the event to reach out to the community.

Our Hope is also a sponsor of Boybutante AIDS Foundation. This group has many events, including BINGO, dances, brunch, drag shows and the Boybutante Ball, that the members of Our Hope participate in.

Our Hope in the past has worked with and been part of the Campus Christian Ministries, worked with the Presbyterian and Episcopal Student Centers at the University of Georgia.

## FINANCES

The finances over the years have been remarkable for the size of our community. Currently while we are waiting for a new Pastor the finances of the church are not at the norm. The attendance also needs improvement. Our Hope MCC has more than enough in its accounts to cover 1 year of Pastors salary and the church expenses. We believe this will give the incoming Pastor the opportunity to succeed from a financial prospective.

Part Time Pastors Position would include the following:

**Annual Compensation** \$20,000.00 annually. Paid \$833.33 on the 15th and 30th of each month. The Church will withhold applicable payroll taxes.

**Additional Compensation** 10% love offering, paid quarterly, based on tithes and offerings over and above Budgeted tithes.

**Insurance and Other Benefits** None

**Relocation Package** Negotiable

**Classification** Part-Time, salaried, 20 hours per week.

**Core Office Hours**

Flexible based on schedule and commitments, with regular available hours as negotiated with the Administrative Council.

**Paid Time Off**

10 days of vacation annually. 12 days per 12 months sick time, available at start date of employment. One Sunday off each quarter not included as regular vacation time. Eleven paid holidays.

**Bereavement Leave**

Three days of bereavement leave in addition to two (2) days travel time. In the event of a death occurring within the Pastor's or Pastor's spouse's immediate family.

**Education Allowance**

3 days per year.



## APPLICATION

### **Submit a Professional Resume**

Include education, employment history, personal and professional references including contact information (at least 3 of each) and other information as you wish to share. Include a list of all MCC congregations you have been a member of or served in.

### **Submit a Sample of Preaching**

Include an audio or video link that will give an example of your preaching. If you would like to send other links of leading worship please feel free to add those.

### **Personal Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Spiritual Gifts:

(1.) \_\_\_\_\_

(2.) \_\_\_\_\_

(3.) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Availability: \_\_\_\_\_

I am: US Citizen? \_\_\_\_\_

Alien legally authorized to work in US? \_\_\_\_\_

*(This question is for US-Based churches, congregations elsewhere will need to check your country's requirements.)*

In UFMCC, I am: ordained?  Yes  No

**Questions** (Based in part on the book, *Pastoral Search Journey* by John Vonhof)  
*Feel free to attach additional pages as needed.*

**a. Thoughts about ministry**

The areas of ministry I find most challenging are:

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The areas of ministry I find most satisfying are:

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The areas in which I most need to grow are:

---

Why are you open to a new call at this time?

**b. Describe your thoughts about leadership**

My style of leadership is:

---

I hope my relationship to the board will be:

---

I hope my relationship to staff and ministry team leaders will be:

---

Developing and nurturing a vision means:

---

Involving others in lay ministry means:

---

I mentor others by:

---

I foster commitment and accountability by:

---

**c. Describe your thoughts about administration**

I think administration of the church's business is:

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The board and ministry teams assist in the church's administration by:

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**d. Describe your thoughts about worship**

The worship style I prefer is:

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My preaching style is:

---

Lay participation in worship should include:

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**e. Describe your thoughts about education**

Good children's and youth ministry includes:

---

Good adult education includes:

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**f. Describe your thoughts about discipleship**

I think good discipleship means:

---

Discipleship training and involvement includes:

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**g. Describe your thoughts about doing justice ministry**

Doing good justice ministry means:

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I think being involved in justice ministry is:

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**h. Describe your thoughts about fellowship**

Good church fellowship is:

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Caring for one another means:

---

Hospital/home visits:

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**i. Attach a brief statement of faith.**

**j. References**

<b>Two MCC Clergy</b>	<b>Phone#</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Church</b>
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1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Two MCC Laity**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Two Optional References</b>	<b>Phone#</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Type of Reference</b>
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1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_