



## Ministry General Information

Ministry Name	Presbytery	Synod
McGregor Presbyterian Church	Trinity	South Atlantic
Email	Preferred Phone	Website Address
pastor@mcgpres.org	803-781-2391	www.mcgpres.org
Mailing Address	Alternate Phone/Email	Community Type
6505 St Andrews Rd, Columbia, SC 29212-2135		Suburban
Congregation or Organization Size	Curriculum	Average Worship Attendance
101-250 members	Adult Sunday School: Various, for example: Kerygma, The Wired Word, Christian Mysticism Youth SS (6-12th grade): Dwell Dive Junior Youth (K-5th): Growing in Grace and Gratitude Wednesday Morning Bible Study (Women): Feasting on the Word	75
Church School Attendance		
38		

Intercultural Composition

White: 97%, Asian/Pacific Islander/South Asian: 2%,  
Black/African American/African: 1%

## Information about the Position

### Position Requirements

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**Position Type(s)**

Solo Pastor: Installed

**Language Requirements**

English

**Experience Required**

Up to 2 Years

**Statement of Faith required?**

Yes

**Employment Status**

Full-time

**Are you open to a clergy couple?**

Yes

### Ministry Requirements

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**Church Mission/Vision Statement**

**Our Mission**

McGregor Presbyterian is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) whose mission is to develop spiritual lives through worship, study and most importantly, being the hands and feet of Jesus in our community.

**Who We Are**

McGregor is a warm and relational community that seeks to do God's work through local missions. Even though McGregor is one of three PCUSA churches in an 8-mile stretch in a conservative county, we believe McGregor offers something different than our sister churches in the area. McGregor encompasses a broad spectrum of ideas. We consider it a strength and a

blessing that we worship with others who may feel differently theologically, socially, or politically. Everyone is welcomed and affirmed in a warm and engaging manner regardless of race, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or religious background.

We think of faith as more of a journey than a destination. We welcome questions, curiosities, and challenges about faith. At McGregor, all are invited to see and feel God's love as we carry that love into the community.

### **Where God Is Calling Us**

We seek to become God's love in action as stated on page 11 in the *Mission Study Report*. Briefly, we strive to be a community of faith that seriously welcomes all; cares for its congregation and others and establishes loving relationships. We strive for warm and vital worship experiences and creative opportunities for study. Finally, we strive to become a mission-driven church where our resources and energy are focused.

### **McGregor's Focus Phrase**

God's Love in Action

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

- Serves as Pastor, supervises church staff and promotes cooperation and teamwork with staff
- Provides, or coordinates provision for, pastoral care of the congregation in collaboration with appropriate committees and teams.
- Supports Stephen Ministry and trained Stephen Ministers
- Plans and leads worship on a weekly basis. Offers unique and meaningful experiences beyond Sunday morning services and traditional services.
- Provides sacraments regularly and officiates at wedding and funeral services
- Plans and moderates meetings of the Session, to include Session retreats and Elder training
- Plans and moderates meetings of the congregation
- Works with Session to provide organizational oversight of the church and assists committees in fulfilling responsibilities. Serves as ex-officio member of all committees and attends meetings as needed
- Works as a resource for educational offerings of the church

- Provides support to the Preschool and its staff and meets with the Director and Board as requested
- Actively participates in the life of Trinity Presbytery
- Participates with local ecumenical groups and pastors to help serve the community
- Discovers and implements innovative partnerships with groups and other churches in the local community
- Utilizes vacation and continuing education benefits in order to renew, refresh and seek personal spiritual growth

## Compensation & Housing

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Minimum Effective Salary

65000

Housing Type

Housing allowance

## MDP - Narratives

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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?

In the backdrop of emerging from a global pandemic, losing a beloved minister of 14 years and celebrating our 50th anniversary, McGregor launched a 9 month congregational wide mission study. Multiple sessions with a high participation rate, along with input from community leaders, resulted in the Mission Study Report. From this process, McGregor crafted a new mission/vision statement. For details related to the core values, scriptures and focus phrase, see the Mission Study Report.

During the Mission Study, the congregation voted to become a *mission-driven congregation*, more fully devoting resources (people power, energy

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and finances) to the local community. McGregor is not mission-driven yet but is working toward that vision. McGregor decided to focus on three main ministry areas in the community: local homeless population, local schools and engaging in community education and conversations.

McGregor is not currently partnered with a ministry program; however, the Session is exploring possible partnerships, including PCUSA's Matthew 25 Church program. There are existing, local ministry organizations, but none that specifically focus on McGregor's target ministry area.

McGregor is not immune from the declining trends in mainline churches. That said, we remain committed to our ministry vision, not only increasing membership numbers. McGregor's primary aim is to sustain a safe place where people join with others in their faith journeys and focus on community ministry.

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?

The Mission Study Team gathered local demographic information and interviewed several community members to gain insight into current needs. The Team focused on a 10 mile radius of McGregor. For detailed community data, please see the Mission Study Report.

We do not have specific data related to homelessness in our ministry area but we do know that 7.36% of the population is below the poverty income level. Based on interviews with the community, the homeless population is growing in our area. Our focus will be crisis driven homelessness rather than chronic homelessness.

Session is working to implement recommendations of the 2023 Mission Study Report. McGregor is actively engaged in conversations with a local school to discuss specific ways that McGregor can support students, teachers and staff. The aim is to become involved with 1-2 schools,

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specifically schools in the district with larger numbers of impoverished families. Session also hosted a panel discussion with organizations related to homelessness in the local area to learn more specific ways that the church can be involved. McGregor has hosted several community workshops on topics related to fraud, estate planning and long-term care planning. A small team is organizing a series of community workshops in 2024 related to gun violence legislation, advocacy and safety. In addition, Session has written an inclusive, affirming statement that is on our website and social media. For more information about the work of the committees, see the 2023 Annual Report.

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?

Our current staff includes an Interim Minister, full time Office Manager and part time Music Director. McGregor has a flourishing Preschool that is financially self-sufficient; this ministry is intertwined with our church wide mission.

Due to our large retired church population, many tasks are done by dedicated volunteers. Fifty-two percent of the congregation is active in McGregor's ministry programs and most people are involved in multiple ministries. For more details on the responsibilities of congregational care and outreach, see the Mission Study Report.

There are concerns about maintaining congregational vitality and sustainability. While the current pool of volunteers can sustain this level of activity in the short-term, we are concerned about the long-term.

Membership has decreased as the age of membership has increased. From 2008 to 2024, membership decreased from 337 to 153. Sixty-eight percent of the current congregation is 56 and older. See the Mission Study Report and 2023 Annual Statistical Report for more detailed congregational data.

The fulfillment of our vision will depend on transforming our current methods and processes. This may include changes in staffing, the ways in

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which we worship and the ways we use our resources, including the physical space we have. We seek a pastor who can help us live out our vision. We are praying for someone who is able to walk us through change with creativity, openness, boldness and flexibility.

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.

#### Measured risk taker

- A careful listener
- Have an active spiritual life and be able to nurture spiritual living in others wherever they are on their journey
- Creative thinker - one who is “not afraid” and willing to try new ways of worship and approaches to community involvement
- Fosters an environment of spiritual curiosity through their continual education and by sharing with the congregation and community
- Possess courage to be open to change, and to lead the congregation through change in the face of inevitable challenges
- Dynamic minister appealing to a broad demographic that is especially attracted to a mission driven focus
- Build a ministry and worship style that makes spiritual life relevant in today’s world
- Possess networking and outreach skills geared to developing community relationships and competent partnerships
- Willingness to be an active and participating community member
- Offers an inclusive hospitable invitation to join in our mission to serve others
- Ability to build a sustainable congregation of Jesus followers who desire to be involved in “God’s Love in Action”
- A theology that concentrates less on doctrine and more on the experiences of the Holy and living out God’s love in the world
- This includes a message that loving God is the same as loving all of creation, including all of humanity

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.

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

- Acknowledge we are a Reformed tradition with a rich history, but also recognizing believers yearn for a faith that *experiences* God
- Responsible for planning and leading Worship in Word and Sacrament including exploring new ways to speak to those seeking God with less emphasis on doctrine and ancient creeds
- Work with Session to build an even broader volunteer base to run McGregor's essential programs, especially consistent with the Vision in the Mission Study
- Collaborate with community leaders to address social issues of justice, homelessness, and designated needs of local schools
- Be a visible presence in the Irmo Community serving in various capacities outside of church, serving as an invitation to join in the work of our stated mission
- Recognize that becoming a mission-driven church cannot be immediately accomplished, however it is felt there is an immediacy to prioritize efforts

## Optional Links



## Mission Study

Report - Compiled Report of  
a nine month congregational  
wide mission study report  
ending in July

2023. - <https://s3.amazonaws.com/media.cloversites.com/1a/1ada6bb0-4105-4107-1000>

## References

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