



## The Bristol Federated Church

37 North Street

Bristol, VT 05443

[www.BristolFederated.com](http://www.BristolFederated.com)

### **BFC Church Profile for Interim Pastor**

The Bristol Federated Church is made up of a community of people where the love for one another is genuine. We are currently in the process of embracing the United Church of Christ side of our federation that is Methodist & UCC. For as long as we can remember we have been led by Methodist clergy. We have not had a clergy person from the UCC side (formally known as “Congregationalists”) in a very long time.

We have begun this journey to find a UCC clergy person because the leadership team of our church aligns with or is open to the values of the UCC and would like to see what growth and opportunities that can bring to our church. Our church is beginning to identify with the UCC motto, “Whoever you are and wherever you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.”

Though our congregation is small we are made up of active volunteers who help fundraise for the church through community outreach. We take pride in our fundraising efforts and the community has come to expect them. “Helping hands at the Bristol Federated Church” through local giving is another motto of ours.

In the coming years we would like to grow our church in many ways. COVID has brought about many changes in our church but one change we take pride in is the transition to online church services. We continue to offer live church online to anyone interested in attending but unable to be in person. Since our Methodist Pastor left at the end of June, our congregation and leadership team has been working cooperatively together to put church services together with guest Pastors.

In one word, Bristol is charming! Often referred to as a “quintessential small town,” it hosts many special events including weekly events on the park and annual events for the town. Bristol is a friendly place where you make friends, conversation, and eye contact with others easily.

Bristol is made up of a variety of people, some who went to school in the town and others who’ve moved here and fallen in love with the area that has a “nature’s playground” appeal. The village of Bristol is uniquely walkable with many businesses in walking distance of homes. Finally, Bristol is part of a 5 Town District with a long history of community through shared schools, natural areas, businesses and social services.

<https://discoverbristolvt.com/bristol/about/>

In an interim Pastor we are looking for a welcoming and dynamic personality. You could say a “meets people easily,” type of person or a willing commitment to do for the time they’re with us. We would like our interim Pastor to teach us more about the UCC and how to integrate UCC ways into our church and church leadership. A bonus would be an interim Pastor who is familiar with or eager to learn about navigating our federation (Methodist/UCC).

In the coming year our wishlist of work surrounds our bylaws, membership & records, federation, parsonage ownership, children’s resources, cross-training, and creating an annual calendar. A somewhat detail orientated person to help us sail forward on solid footing would be helpful. We are also open to an infusion of fresh ideas from an interim Pastor on cultivating more community surrounding Christianity in our church and outside of our church. Finally, an adjustable/flexible team leader is another description that comes to our mind when describing the ideal interim Pastor for the Bristol Federated Church.

At this time, we can support a ½ time (20 – 25 hours) Pastor. We are willing to negotiate the duties of the Pastor but our current hope is that our chosen interim Pastor can lead worship a minimum of three Sundays per month and occasionally be present for all four Sundays. We are looking for leadership support during and outside of monthly meetings from the interim Pastor. If any time is leftover, we would encourage our interim pastor to do some Pastoral Care or answer funeral and wedding requests. Compensation is negotiable, based on Conference guidelines.

Although we will be working on our parsonage throughout the months it will be available for overnight stays by an interim Pastor or perhaps longer stays.