Virginia-Highland Church

Mission

Virginia-Highland Church is a progressive and inclusive community of faith in the heart of the city.

Description

Virginia-Highland Church is a progressive and inclusive community of faith in the heart of the city that gave us such civil rights heroes as Nobel Peace Prize-winners Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and President Jimmy Carter. This church seeks to embody the values of justice and peace for which they both worked so hard. This congregation stood up for the inclusion of women, and lesbian, gay, and transgender folks and, as a result, had to give up their place in the Southern Baptist and Georgia Baptist Conventions. Courage such as that should be honored. Although we are a vibrant congregation in a vibrant community, we are still a fairly small congregation with about 100 in worship. Our church practices radical welcome and thus is a community that represents a true diversity of sexuality, gender, race, and age. We also practice our belief that service is a foundation of faith through facilitating service to others in many ways.

Unique Opportunities in Ministry

Our church is very near the Ponce de Leon corridor, where many people in need make their homes on the street and in a few low income housing developments. This provides us with many opportunities to serve those with needs for housing, food, and encouragement. We also have an ongoing partnership with Center for Progressive Renewal, which offers church planting, continuing education and church renewal work in several denominations including the United Church of Christ, the Alliance of Baptists, among others, providing the opportunity for students to network broadly during their time with us.

Site Details

Outreach

Monthly service at ICM Food Pantry, Journey Men's Shelter, Open Hand meal delivery. Seasonal service and material collections for the above and for refugee ministries, other neighborhood outreach ministries, and for global aid. Leadership in marriage equality efforts of a coalition of local churches.

Meeting the Five Areas of Ministry

Administration:
The student will attend administrative meetings and parish council meetings, providing input and observing ways to conduct the administrative business of the church. The student will also have the opportunity to learn about our administrative systems, including the membership database, web page, publications, among others.

Liturgy (Worship and Preaching):
Students will attend worship planning meetings, providing input and observing ways to conduct worship planning. Students will participate in and lead elements of worship and be provided the opportunity to preach.
Mission and Outreach:
Students will participate in and help coordinate outreach opportunities, outreach planning, and aid to individuals in need that contact the church, observing and providing input on conducting outreach efforts.

Pastoral Calling and Congregational Care:
Students will participate in congregational care through working with our deacons to identify the needs of parishioners and contacting/visiting them when needed.

Religious Education:
Students will participate in the planning and delivery of education for children and adults, ranging from one-time events to ongoing small group series to weekly children's education on Sunday mornings, helping teach, providing input and observing for opportunities to improve.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Denomination</th>
<th>United Church of Christ and Alliance of Baptists</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location Type</td>
<td>Urban</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worship Attendance</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worship Times</td>
<td>Sundays 11AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly Schedule</td>
<td>Worship 11AM Sundays Small Groups 9:30 AM and Weeknights seasonally Children's and Adult Education 9:30 AM most Sundays</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stipend?</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Distance from Candler</td>
<td>4 Miles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accessible to persons with disabilities?</td>
<td>Main spaces of worship and offices are accessible. Restrooms are partially accessible. Accessibility improvements are underway as a part of our capital campaign.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accessible via public transportation?</td>
<td>Yes, Marta Bus 36 is direct from Emory to church.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Can women be ordained?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>What role do women play in leadership?</td>
<td>Our leadership includes Co-pastor Rev. Cameron Trimble, Minister for Spiritual Formation Rev. Anna Hall, and Brittney Boykin assisting with music leadership.</td>
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Contact
www.vhchurch.org

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