

# **Associate Campus Minister Position Description**

## **The Humble Walk, Lutheran Campus Ministry at UMD**

### **About the ministry:**

The Humble Walk Campus Ministry at the University of Maryland, College Park, is rooted in the Lutheran tradition and partners with the Episcopal Church. It is ecumenical in nature, with students coming from a variety of Christian denominations, other faiths, or no faith.

The ministry is active, growing, and affirming, focused on Jesus and the Good News, and relationships are at the center of the ministry. We are a ministry that is deeply connected to the University and the larger church body. We are called the Humble Walk after Micah 6:8, as God invites us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. As such, with the Campus Pastor, the Associate Campus Minister will develop student leadership in all aspects of our ministry and always ask the question: “Who can walk with me in this work?” inviting students to join in all aspects of the ministry.

Leadership and relationships are at the center of this ministry, and the relationships that we have with our students are paramount to the success and growth of the ministry. Our students do not simply show up to activities and worship but are active participants and engage in the planning and facilitation of programming. We strive to include programming that is student desired and driven. We meet regularly with the student leadership team to review and look forward to what the ministry is doing. Additionally, we meet with the student leaders of the three children’s programs and ensure that they, too, have what they need to grow in their leadership and capability.

### **About the position:**

The Associate Campus Minister will work primarily in student-facing aspects of the ministry. This is a new position, arising from a need due to the growth in the ministry. As such, a ministry of presence is key, with almost all of the work happening on-site at the Memorial Chapel on campus, Hope Lutheran Church to the South of campus, or St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church to the East of campus.

As part of a staff that includes a Campus Pastor/Chaplain, a Director for Stewardship and Advancement, a part-time Administrative Assistant and a potential for a Program Assistant, the ministry operates mostly during the academic year. As such, the work is heavily concentrated during the academic semester (and immediately before and after the semester).

We anticipate an average of 25 hours a week for this position on a 10 month contract (starting the week of August 11 through June 15). This would include Sunday night (3:30-8pm), Tuesday including into the evening, and Friday, with occasional work Saturday or another evening. Presence on our semesterly weekend retreats would be expected, however presence on our longer trips would be optional. While this is a one year contract at present, our hope is that

we would be able to continue this position and even possibly expand it in the future. The 10 month contract would bring a salary of \$35,000. We are unfortunately unable to offer benefits at this time.

This person can be an ELCA Rostered Minister of Word and Sacrament, Word and Service, a minister in good standing in a full communion partner of the ELCA, or a lay person connected to an ELCA or full communion partner church. They will be supervised by the Campus Pastor and hired by The Directing Committee, the board that oversees the ministry.

**Job description:**

1. Pro-active pastoral care with students: Connecting with students regularly via text and other platforms to schedule one-off one-on-ones and check-in times. This includes 4-5 weekly one-on-ones with student leaders. It could also include advertised “hang out” times in the office spaces and/or leading a small group. (Primary)
2. Making connections with campus-wide organizations in order to foster relationships with students and various campus partners.
3. Preaching 1-2 times per semester during Sunday evening Humble Walk worship.
4. Attend weekly Humble Walk staff meetings
5. Organize and lead Biblelogue - a Tuesday evening weekly study and/or conversation around Biblical/Theological topics
6. Accompany students on retreats (one per semester).
7. Other duties as assigned.

**Requirements:**

1. Be a Christian with a desire to walk in the way of Jesus and engage your faith with young people.
2. Theologically LGBTQ+ affirming, affirming of women’s leadership in all areas of ministry in the church, and a demonstrated commitment to inclusion, anti-racism, diversity, and equity.
3. Appreciation for the mission, theology and values of the ELCA and Episcopal Church, including a belief in the mystery of the triune God, looks to the Bible as normative for

faith and life, and affirming the importance of the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion.

4. Possess strong pastoral care and listening skills
5. Envelop an invitational disposition
6. Ability to be a spiritual accompanier and connect one-on-one with students, especially around topics relating to faith.
7. Flexibility, especially with the cyclical nature of the academic calendar
8. Ability to use creativity in order to connect and build relationships with students

**Timeline:**

To apply, send a cover letter, resume, and three references (at least one being from someone in a ministry where you have been present) to Pastor Ray Ranker, [rayranker@gmail.com](mailto:rayranker@gmail.com). For questions, contact Pastor Ray by phone or text at 410-294-6691.

Applications are due by June 20. Interviews will be conducted over zoom with the hiring team, and a separate interview will happen in person with student leaders.