Full-Time Ministry Position

Gilford Community Church - Gilford, New Hampshire

Opening May 2027

Are you a thoughtful, community-rooted pastor called to shepherd a congregation that embraces faith as a living, questioning, and ever-deepening journey? Gilford Community Church, nestled between the shores of Lake Winnipesaukee and the Gunstock Mountain range in New Hampshire, is seeking a gifted leader to guide our church family into its next chapter.

Our beloved pastor will retire in May 2027 after decades of faithful service. We are looking ahead with great hope, seeking someone who will honor what has been built while breathing fresh energy into our congregation's future — especially as we seek to welcome and grow relationships with young families and new voices.

Who We Are

Gilford Community Church is a non-denominational, open, welcoming, and affirming congregation rooted in the conviction that faith grows best in an atmosphere of honest inquiry, mutual respect, and active service. We believe spiritual life is a journey, not a destination, and we hold space for questions as much as answers.

Our congregation is characterized by:

- A deep commitment to community service and local engagement
- A culture of open dialogue, intellectual curiosity, and theological exploration
- A vibrant and growing Youth Ministry Program
- A celebrated Music Program that enriches our worship life
- A strong volunteer culture with programming for all ages
- A financially stable, well-resourced, and ministry-focused organization
- Weekly in-person worship and an active online community

A Place Where Faith and Community Intersect

Gilford sits at the heart of New Hampshire's Lakes Region — a place of extraordinary natural beauty, tight-knit community spirit, and rich New England character. With easy access to Lake Winnipesaukee, mountain trails, Gunstock Mountain ski area, and the New England coastline, this is a community where families plant roots, neighbors know each other by name, and faith, community and natural beauty intersect.

For a pastor with a heart for community, Gilford offers a rare and wonderful canvas.

The Leader We Are Seeking

We are looking for a pastor who is as comfortable in the community as they are in the pulpit — someone who sees ministry not only as preaching and pastoral care, but as showing up, listening, and building bridges.

Spiritual Leadership & Pastoral Care

- Demonstrates a deeply personal and authentic Christian faith
- Nurtures and deepens the spiritual journeys of current members with care, consistency, and creativity
- Supports our youth ministries program by offering a place to help children explore their faith and feel that their thoughts are important and valued
- Provides compassionate pastoral support through life's significant moments — celebrations, struggles, and losses
- Preaches and teaches in ways that are engaging, intellectually honest, and accessible to a wide range of seekers

Community Engagement & Growth

- Possesses a genuine passion for community service and is energized by working alongside members to serve others
- Has a heart for welcoming newcomers, especially young families, and a talent for making people feel at home
- Brings creative ideas for expanding our reach and relevance in the wider Gilford community
- Understands how to cultivate an environment that is truly inclusive, inviting to those who are exploring faith, and affirming of all people

Intellectual Openness & Dialogue

- Embraces and encourages theological questions, honest doubt, and open conversation as core to healthy faith
- Creates space for diverse perspectives and can hold complexity with grace and conviction
- Models intellectual humility while offering thoughtful, grounded spiritual direction
- Sees the congregation as partners in ongoing theological exploration, not simply recipients of answers

Leadership & Collaboration

- Thrives in a collaborative church environment and lifts up the gifts of lay leaders and staff
- Brings demonstrated experience in church leadership, organizational development, or ministry growth
- Communicates with clarity, warmth, and authenticity from the pulpit and in everyday conversations

- Is energized by working with volunteers and building team culture

What We Offer

- Full-time employment with compensation commensurate with experience
- A supportive, engaged, and enthusiastic church leadership team and congregation
- Financial stability and robust resources dedicated to ministry growth
- A community deeply committed to service — your partners in ministry are already at work
- The opportunity to make a lasting impact in a thriving, open, and intellectually vibrant church family
- A remarkable place to live, raise a family, and build a life

If this calling resonates with you, we would be honored to hear your story. We understand the need for complete confidentiality throughout this process and will honor it fully.

To submit a note of interest or to request additional information, please contact our Search Committee Chair at: chandler@metrocast.net You can also learn more about our congregation at: gilfordcommunitychurch.org

We look forward to beginning this conversation.