Assistant Pastor of Mission Engagement – Opening at First Presbyterian Church, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The **Assistant Pastor of Mission Engagement** responds to God's call on the Christian Church to live into outreach strategies that result in programs and experiences that are biblical, faithful, meaningful, and conversational. First Pres has a long history of collaborative partnerships with local agencies which help to empower the poor, the immigrant, children and youth, in Jesus name. Embracing the prophet Jeremiah's call to "seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you"—*Jer. 29:7*, First Pres believes successful engagement is when we are partnered and living together in the communities we serve. The process of breaking bread and responding to the needs of others together is a beautiful expression of God's vision for this earthly Kingdom. When we follow the model set in the Parable of the Good Samaritan (*Lk. 10:25-37*), which is to care for both the injured as well as those who are best suited and are in ministry to care for the injured, we live in an engagement model that is based upon giftedness, relationship and constant prayer and discernment. Our aim is to partner with our mission agencies so those in need might be empowered and released from dehumanizing poverty into human flourishing. While First Pres is looking for a missions-minded Pastor, we are looking beyond the program model to a discipleship model integrated into the entire body of our church.

This position works in partnership with the Lead Pastor and First Pres Session to evolve the vision for First Pres outreach strategy by developing accessible experiences for a first time mission encounter up to involvement and commitment to a developed, multi-year relationship. This includes also the development and maintenance of existing First Pres relationships with mission agencies, denominational leaders and missionaries across the globe. First Pres has deep relationships with multiple Colorado Springs agencies and partnerships in Cuba, Egypt, Guatemala, India and Mongolia. We expect that First Pres will continue to evolve its local and global partnerships into the future, and this position will work to multiply our mission effectiveness through the development of leaders and lay teams. Our Sunday Communities, life groups and other First Pres ministries also develop community and international relationships and this position will help inform and liaise various groups in their support of these ministries to keep them in alignment with the First Pres vision for local and global engagement and our discipleship pathway.

Education & Experience:
We are looking for an individual who has attained a Bachelor degree in international relations, anthropology, sociology or related degree. As this is an Assistant Pastor position, a Masters' Degree in Theology or Divinity is required so that the individual is ready for ordination (or is already ordained in a denominational context in alignment with ECO). First Pres is looking for a person who thrives in cross-cultural experiences, might have the ability to speak multiple languages, and has worked in diverse settings that require flexibility, sensitivity and awareness of and ability to celebrate cultural difference. This position requires international travel up to several times a year.

First Pres is looking for an individual who has a passion for Christ and the Bible and thrives in partnered relationships between neighborhoods, agencies, institutions and cultures. An individual who can think holistically about ministry and view global and local engagement activity as part of the whole church ministry with multiple entry points. This individual needs high energy, creativity, ability to run programs, lead from up front, build lay teams, equip and coach. Send a cover letter, resume and a two-page narrative on your faith journey and why you see God calling you to this position to Rev. Jennifer Holz, Executive Pastor, jholz@first-pres.org.

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