**First Mennonite Church – Hillsboro, KS**

**Pastoral Job Description 2018**

**Overview:**

First Mennonite Church (FMC) of Hillsboro is seeking a full-time or part-time lead pastor who will enthusiastically embrace who we are and is willing to participate in the experience and process of becoming who God would have us become.

**Qualifications:**

Candidates must be committed Christians who embrace the Anabaptist understanding of the Christian faith as articulated in “A Shared Understanding of Ministerial Leadership: A Polity Manual for Mennonite Church Canada and Mennonite Church USA”. A Master of Divinity degree or someone working toward an M.Div. is preferred. Persons with other theological education will be considered.

The Pastor must be able to balance responsibilities to the church with personal and family time. Time for daily prayer, Bible study, spiritual retreats, continuing education, and the possibility of sabbaticals (following the guidelines of Mennonite Church USA) are considered vital to a balanced ministry and will be available to the Pastor.

**Responsibilities:**

In conjunction with the Vision Council, the pastor will help shape and implement the vision of the congregation and provide spiritual leadership.

In conjunction with the Discernment Council, the Pastor will assist in calling out gifts of ministry and service and help equip people for ministry.

The Pastor will carry the primary responsibility for planning Sunday worship services, preaching and teaching, and other special services, such as child dedications, baptisms, and communion.

The Pastor will have pastoral care responsibilities, including visitation, responding to pastoral emergencies, caring for the bereaved, and premarital counseling. Conducting weddings and funerals is also a role of the Pastor. The Pastor will also be involved in extending hospitality to seekers, developing relationships and the preparation of prospective members.

The Pastor will help represent the congregation in the local ministerial association, Western District Conference, and Mennonite Church USA.

If not ordained for ministry, the Pastor will participate in the credentialing process as provided by the Western District Conference.