



# The River Conference

of the Free Methodist Church

November 21, 2024

Re: Community Development Director in Amarillo, TX

The River Conference of the Free Methodist Church seeks an entrepreneurial leader to develop and direct a collaborative ministry center. The River Conference is assuming ownership of a church facility that has multiple worship spaces, a school building, and 4-bedroom parsonage. Currently, the building is being rented in part by our Amarillo Free Methodist Church plant, led by Licensed Pastor Onesphore Muhebera (with a worship attendance of about 100). The ministry center previously belonged to Trinity Methodist Church, which was an independent Methodist Church that disaffiliated from the United Methodist Church two years ago. Due to declining attendance, the congregation sought a new ministry to support the upkeep of the nearly 35,000 sq foot property. As the host site for our Amarillo church, we were eager to see this space transformed to launch a Spirit-fueled movement.

Amarillo is located on the Texas panhandle and boasts a metropolitan population of 270,000, which is consistently growing. Amarillo is racially diverse, with 52% of the population identifying as White, 33% identifying as Latino/a, and 7% as African-American. It is in the Bible Belt with at least 200 churches in the city. Nearly 80% of the population identifies as Christian, with nearly half of those being affiliated with Baptist movements. The next largest block of Christians represent Methodist and Pentecostal churches. Amarillo's largest industries include meat packing, cattle feed, transportation and agriculture. The unemployment levels are modest and the cost of living is low (26% less expensive than the national average).

The River Conference is looking for a community development entrepreneurial director of the newly purchased facility. The director is charged with leveraging the facility for maximum kingdom impact. We envision this will include collaborating with churches, non-profit agencies, and parachurch ministries. This includes the opportunity to develop new FM churches and fresh expressions concurrently. The responsibilities include overseeing the operational aspect of the facilities, recruiting ministry partners, negotiating user agreements, and crafting and articulating the guiding vision. The Director is directly responsible to the Superintendent, Asst. Superintendent, and the N. Texas District Superintendent.

Director candidates should possess:

1. Apostolic and administrative giftings evident through a history of fruitful organizational development with Kingdom impact.
2. Entrepreneurial leanings evident through a history of innovative and collaborative ministry coordination.
3. High intrinsic motivation as evident through a history of ministry initiation.
4. High Cultural Intelligence (CQ) as evident by a history of fruitful cross-cultural collaborative ministry.
5. Strong team-building skills as evidenced by a history of participating in fruitful team-led ministry or industry.
6. Familiarity with grant writing and grant compliance.
7. Ministry leadership experiences as clergy or paid ministry staff

The yearly compensation is for the Director is a salary of \$48,000 along with use of the parsonage. If the Director is an Elder in the Free Methodist Church, then they will be eligible for the denominational pension plan. The salary is guaranteed for 2 years, after which, the expectation is that income generated from the partnerships with the center will support the director's salary. The position is reviewed on a yearly basis. Estimated start date is July through December of 2025.

Interested leaders should send an email of interest, along with a ministry resume to [drmichael@theriverconference.org](mailto:drmichael@theriverconference.org).

