



The River Conference

of the Free Methodist Church

Opportunity for Lead Pastor

The River Conference of the Free Methodist Church USA is looking for the next Lead Pastor at Colville Free Methodist Church in Colville, WA (www.colvillefree.com). Colville is a small town of about 5000 residents located 71 miles northwest of Spokane, WA. It is the county seat and largest city in Stevens County, which has a population of about 48,000 residents. Colville FMC is over 60 years old and worships about 70 in person and 60 online per week. Its current pastor is transitioning to a different River Conference church in June.

Colville FMC is a mature church with a history of strong leadership, commitment to disciple making, and generous support for local and international missions. The congregation's single largest age demographic is Gen X, followed by Millennials. Colville has a mid-week AWANA program that hosts 40 children. One-third of those in attendance at worship are under the age of 12 in a town where a quarter of the households have children under the age of 18. The congregation reflects its greater community in terms of ethnic diversity. According to the 2020 census, 87% of Colville residents identified as White, 5% as Latin American, and 2% as Native American. The city of Colville is adjacent to the Colville Confederated Reservation, which is home to 9 indigenous tribes and nearly 10,000 residents.

The Church recently purchased and renovated its current worship space. They have no debt. The worship center can accommodate 120 in the worship space. It has a fellowship hall that can accommodate 60, a business office, a pastor's office, a pole building, and 5 classrooms, all sitting on 1.5 acres. The church does not have a parsonage. In addition to the full-time pastor, it currently has three part-time employees: the Church Secretary, the Custodian, and the Youth Director. The transitioning Pastor has a total compensation package of approximately \$86,000 in an annual budget of \$181,000. They have had a female lead pastor in the past and are supportive of women in leadership.

The next lead Pastor at Colville needs to have excellent leadership skills along with pastoral and teaching gifts. They are looking for an experienced pastor who can also engage the city, particularly young adults. The congregation has had exceptionally strong communicators over the past 15 years and has high expectations for the church's preaching ministry. The ideal candidate should have significant cultural awareness of rural, northwestern settings.

Interested candidates should send a letter of interest, a recent ministry resume, and 3 references, at least one of whom has observed your ministry directly in a supervisory role, to drmichael@theriverconference.org.

Application period opened April 13, 2026.

Position available mid-June 2026.

