

Dear Metropolitan Community Churches:

Delegates from across the world who are leaders in Metropolitan Community Churches (MCC) came together in early July this year at General Conference to take the next step toward electing a new Moderator. Delegates considered four candidates but were unable to achieve a majority vote in both houses. Per MCC Bylaws, the seat has been declared vacant. It is now the responsibility of the MCC Governing Board to appoint an Interim Moderator to serve for three years until the General Conference of 2019.

The MCC Governing Board is responsible for conducting a search and appointing the Interim Moderator for the denomination. They will complete the process in time to announce the appointment on 1 October 2016.

The job description for the position of Interim Moderator, along with the application process, can be found in the attachments.

We are writing to express our gratitude for your prayers, wisdom, grace and confidence in supporting our work as your Governing Board.

Over the past few weeks we have received a number of suggestions regarding the Interim Moderator position. These suggestions have been made both in respect of and concerning individuals we should consider and regarding the process we should follow to appoint the Interim Moderator.

We have prayerfully listened to all the suggestions regarding process and, using guidance provided to churches seeking an Interim Pastor and with reference to both the MCC Interim selection process and the Moderator's Nominating Committee process, we have decided to run an open call application process.

We understand that many of you will have someone you think would be perfect for the role, and we ask that you pass the details of the application process onto them and invite them to consider applying.

We understand that you may feel some people should be ineligible, and we have agreed that members of the Governing Board are ineligible to apply. However, because we strongly believe that the decision to apply should be a personal decision between the individual and God, we will therefore consider each application on its own merits.

We acknowledge that some demographics within the denomination are underrepresented in leadership and understand that some members may wish to see applicants from those demographics receive preferential treatment in this process. We agree that the recent General Conference highlighted that MCC is not immune from the prejudices and inequalities of society. We are committed to working with the Interim Moderator, Council of Elders and Senior Leadership Team to challenge these inequalities, to improve opportunities for all underrepresented groups, and to ensure that, in 2019, candidates for Moderator and Governing Board are assured of fair treatment irrespective of their apparent privilege or disadvantages.

Utilizing the best practices approach, we are also committed to ensuring that the process to appoint an Interim Moderator is conducted in line with our legal obligations and complies with both international best practices and U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission requirements.

We do not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, class, education background, marital status, disability, health status, HIV status, personal appearance, family responsibility, political affiliation, or any other status protected

by applicable law. Women, transgender people, veterans, and people of color are strongly encouraged to apply.

Applications will be accepted through 20 August 2016. Send applications to the MCC Governing Board at InterimModeratorInfo@MCCchurch.net. Questions about the process can be sent to the same address.

Sincerely,

Metropolitan Community Churches Governing Board

Sarah-Jane Ramage, Vice-Chair

Kimberly Brown

Rev. Dr. Stephanie Burns

Rev. Joe Cobb

Angel Collie

Dr. Mark Dalgleish

Rev. Jakob Hero

Rev. Dr. William Hubbard Knight