PLENTIFUL GIFTS
Nourishing Members for the Flourishing of Small Member Congregations

Mentor Job Description

Plentiful Gifts identifies, nourishes, and equips members of participating churches who desire to grow in faith and to inhabit spiritual and ministry practices instead of relying on a model heavily dependent on full-time paid clergy. Four to seven congregations will participate. The Mentor will be assigned to one congregation; perhaps two if circumstances warrant. The Mentor will walk alongside the congregation, encouraging and shepherding them while faithfully applying the grant provisions in ways that meet the particular and contextual needs of the congregation. The Mentor will do this in partnership with the Catalyst.

Expectations include:

- A two-year commitment (contracts will run approximately, November 2026 – August 2028);
- Making two points of contact a month with your congregation:
    - At least one in-person visit is required and
    - A second contact can be in person or by another means such as a phone call, a greeting in worship, at a retreat, etc.
- A monthly meeting with the Catalyst and other Mentors;
- Working with the Catalyst to plan and gather church members, other Mentors, and other retreat participants for four retreats at roughly six-month intervals during the two years (plan on these retreats encompassing one or two of your visits for that month);
- Complete a monthly reflective report to send to your Catalyst and a copy to the UDTS Project Director Beth McCaw (by the fifth of each month). Later in the process this becomes reporting data for the Lilly Foundation, as well as a source of insight into offerings that are most useful in John Knox Presbytery. This report also triggers pay for the month.
- Assisting Forest Walk Consulting during the discernment (Mirror and Windows) and Menu phases when your encouragement in the congregation's explorations and learning is especially valuable.

Mentors are required to be in good standing with their presbyteries or home judicatories (if another denomination) and have current approved background checks on file there.

Compensation includes a $500 a month stipend (possibly more or with mileage reimbursement to be determined with your Catalyst). This is approximately 4 hours/week. You are paid by the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary as an independent contractor (1099). There are no benefits, nor taxes withheld. University of Dubuque assumes no liability for travel or other ministry risks.

The Plentiful Gifts program is a program to nourish, train, and equip church members for the flourishing of small member churches. This is an opportunity for church members to be fed in a targeted way that will strengthen them where they may feel weak or where they are most committed. It is *not* a magic wand or program to help them strive to be "better."