

Charles Stephen Currie, Jr., M.Div.
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An Ordained Minister in the United Church of Christ. The UCC, which has roots going back to the Pilgrims, is "a united and uniting, multiracial and multicultural, accessible to all, open and affirming, and peace with justice church."

EDUCATION

Master Of Divinity

2006

Eden Theological Seminary, St. Louis, MO., an ecumenical graduate school affiliated with United Church of Christ and accredited by the Association of Theological Schools. Served as a teaching assistant to The Rev. Dr. Michael Kinnamon in 2006.

Additional graduate level work in homiletics at Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis, MO., doctoral studies at Chicago Theological Seminary in public theology, and undergraduate course work in political science at Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon.

SKILLS PROFILE

My professional experience has included working with non-profits and faith communities on issues related to homelessness, housing, health care, mental health, domestic violence and other related areas of concern in a variety of staff and volunteer board positions. That experience has included successful work engaging volunteers in church and non-profit based projects, fund raising, management of staff, community outreach, public speaking, and public policy advocacy on local, state, and national levels.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Interim Minister

2006-2009

Parkrose Community United Church of Christ, Portland, Oregon

This position was expected to last one year but it quickly became apparent that the church was on the verge of closure. A budget deficit and deteriorating building threatened the church. The membership was also divided on important theological issues. During my three year tenure, the congregation engaged in a strategic planning process, voted to become "Open and Affirming" towards gays and lesbians, expanded theological educational programs for adults, launched a new joint youth program with another congregation, and decided to sell their property and relocate with a new focus on mission and outreach to the community. A permanent minister was called in late 2009.

Director of Community Outreach

1998-2002

First United Methodist Church, Portland, Oregon

This position served as both staff support to the congregation's social justice-related committees and as the executive director position for the Goose Hollow Family Shelter, Portland's largest winter shelter. Contributions at the shelter doubled during my tenure and the volunteer base grew from 200 to over 800. Overall responsibilities included supervision and recruitment of staff and volunteers, fund development, development of public policy initiatives on issues related to violence prevention, racial justice, and affordable housing; along with educational programs.

Shelter Manager 1997-1998
First United Methodist Church, Portland, Oregon

Coordinated day-to-day operations of the Goose Hollow Family Shelter under the supervision of the executive director.

Administrative Housing and Property Coordinator 1995-1996
Transition Projects, Portland, Oregon

Oversaw development of case management programs and other social service activities at two alcohol and drug free housing facilities.

Housing Coordinator / Emergency Service Worker 1991-1995
Outside In Socio-Medical Aid Station

Coordinated housing services for youth experiencing homelessness and provided information and referral services for youth in crisis situations.

Executive Producer 1987-1991
Waterfront Classics, Inc.

Produced summer outdoor concert series with the Oregon Symphony Orchestra with over 75,000 people in attendance.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Acting Minister**, First Congregational United Church of Christ (Salem, Oregon), February 2011 - current
- **Faith-based Initiative Consultant**, Office of Multnomah County Commissioner Barbara Willer, November - December 2010
- **Program Coordinator**, EMO Interfaith Homeless & Housing Coalition, April 1999 – June 2000
- **Homeless Youth Policy Consultant**, Office of Portland, Oregon City Commissioner Gretchen Miller Kafoury, August 1997 - January 1998
- **Facilitator / Grant Reviewer**, Corporation for National Service, Washington, DC, April 1997 - May 1997
- **Development Campaign Consultant**, Office of Portland, Oregon City Commissioner Gretchen Miller Kafoury, November 1996 - January 1997
- **Federal Grant Developer and Homeless Policy Consultant**, Office of Portland, Oregon City Commissioner Gretchen Miller Kafoury, August 1994 - January 1995

NON-PROFIT BOARD / COMMISSION MEMBERSHIPS

- Ecumenical Ministries Public Policy Committee, March 2007 - October 2010
- National Coalition for the Homeless, October 1999 – January 2003
- North American Street Newspaper Association, Aug 1996 – August 1999
- Oregon Housing Now Coalition, July 1996 - July 1998 (Chair 97-98)
- Outside In Socio-Medical Aid Station, Sept. 1996 - Sept.1997
- Burnside Advocates Group, April 1990 - August 1997
- Multnomah County Community Action Commission, June 1992 - June 1995 (Chair 93-94)
- Burnside Community Council/Baloney Joe's, September 1987 - April 1990

AWARDS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

- Blessed Are The Peacemakers Award, World Council of Churches 2004
- Vollum Ecumenical Award, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon 2003