Dear Friends of Countryside Community Church and the Tri-Faith Initiative of Omaha:

Thank you for your presence and positive impact in our community, particularly as you work with (lead) (*name of organization or church*). We consider you an important leader in our community, which brings us to our request for your help in connecting with other great leaders like you.

After the recent departures of Senior Minister Eric Elnes and Associate Minister Chris Alexander, Countryside has the unprecedented opportunity to hire two interim ministers: **Minister of Worship and Congregational Care** and **Minister of Engagement and Formation**. Job descriptions may be found on the Countryside website at [countrysideucc.org/about-us/openpositions](https://countrysideucc.org/about-us/openpositions). Both interim ministers will be eligible to become the next settled ministers for their respective positions. **We are asking for your help to identify and invite qualified candidates to consider these exciting opportunities for service and leadership, even if that candidate might be you!**

Last year, Countryside Community Church moved into its new home on the Tri-Faith Commons next to its partners Temple Israel and the American Muslim Institute to form the Tri-Faith Initiative of Omaha. Countryside is grateful for Eric’s and Chris’s prayerful leadership in achieving such an important milestone. Believing that God is still speaking to us, Countryside’s Transition Leadership Team, Moderators, and Church Council find themselves with the opportunity to purposefully align our ministries, governance structure, and vision.

Countryside will utilize a model of collaborative leadership during a 12 to 18 month interim period. The Leadership Team shall consist of three co-equal leaders, two ordained ministers and one lay leader acting as the Director of Vision and Stewardship who will embody and encourage the faith of the Church to live the transformative adventure of God’s love. Well supported by church leadership, the members of this Leadership Team are called to be supportive and mutually accountable to one another, and to be connected to an engaged congregation and Church Council. Beyond providing leadership during Countryside’s interim period, the new Leadership Team will guide the congregation in a discernment process for future leadership and governance structure.

Countryside is an inclusive family of faith, welcoming all to our table of love and acceptance. We are diverse, yet united by Christ’s example. We care for one another, support one another, and challenge one another to become all that God creates us to be. We work together to nurture our community and to promote peace and justice in our conflicted world.

You can learn more about Countryside Community Church and these positions by visiting our website at [countrysideucc.org/about-us/openpositions](https://countrysideucc.org/about-us/openpositions). **If you or one of your colleagues feels called to one of these interim positions, please send your profile and two or three videos to** [**tlc@countrysideucc.org**](mailto:tlc@countrysideucc.com)**.** We encourage you to share this information with other qualified candidates who might be interested. If you have additional questions, please direct them to [tlc@countrysideucc.org](mailto:tlc@countrysideucc.org).

With Gratitude,

*(Name of Sender),* Friend of Countryside Community Church (UCC)