



# Elim Park

Opportunity Profile

**DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRY**



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# THE OPPORTUNITY

## *Director of Christian Ministry*

Elim Park, a world-class Life Plan Retirement Community, in Cheshire, Connecticut, is seeking a dynamic and charismatic Director of Christian Ministries (DCM) to prayerfully expand the chaplaincy ministry and direct the overall spiritual environment of the residents and staff. This is an opportunity for an experienced and proven leader, with a pastoral calling for ministry to seniors, to shape the future of Christian

Ministries at Elim Park and in the local community!

In addition to discipleship and evangelism for the residents and staff, Elim Park desires to engage the community of Cheshire with the love of God through the life-giving gospel of Jesus Christ. The DCM will be responsible for casting vision and executing a strategy for ministry expansion in concert with the mission of Elim

Park that seeks to create a “Christ-like environment.”

The perfect candidate for this role will benefit from working with a motivated executive team in a healthy staff culture that is committed to servant leadership. The role is best suited for a shepherd leader who is goal oriented, excels in strategic leadership, and administrative execution.





## The Vision

The Vision of the Christian Ministries is driven by the Mission of Elim Park that seeks to create a “Christ-like environment.” A Christ-like environment is distinct from a Christian religious organization inasmuch as it attempts to follow and model the radical teachings and principles of Jesus Christ.

In addition, it is the Vision of the Christian Ministries Department that every resident will be afforded the opportunity to know and grow in a personal relationship with their Creator God.



Elim Park is a not-for-profit, inter-denominational, nationally accredited Life Plan Retirement Community located in the historic town of Cheshire, Connecticut whose mission is to provide its 300+ residents with quality care in a Christ-centered environment through beautiful apartment homes, customizable living options, comprehensive wellness programs, and a Health Care Center.

The retirement community has earned its outstanding reputation by adhering to and setting very high standards for quality independent living apartment style living, amenities, personalized services. Post-Acute Care and Rehabilitation Services are also available for adults of all ages in the Health Care Center.

Elim Park was born at a gathering at the First Swedish Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York

when the group decided to open “a home in the country” that would be used for summer guests. In 1906 a 12 room house was dedicated as a rest home. Since that time the community has moved from Shelton to Cheshire in 1958 and specializes in promoting an active lifestyle and providing peace of mind for adults age 62 or better.

The organization has maintained its vision to act as an extension of the Church ministry within Converge Northeast. Members of Converge Northeast are given admission priority, residents are encouraged to grow spiritually as part of an effort to promote wellness in all areas of living, and Christian Services remain a vital element of the community. A common theme of leadership at Elim Park is a desire to “Honor God in all we do.”

Nestled on 40 acres in the historic town of

Cheshire, Elim Park boasts scenic country views of the Mill River and Sleeping Giant within easy access to the culture of cities like New Haven. The New England Style Neighborhoods at Elim Park encompass three themed restaurants, The Market, a Fitness and Wellness Center, and the 300-seat Nelson Hall Theater for the Performing Arts.

The Christian Ministries at Elim Park are led by a pastor (the Director of Christian Ministries) who works alongside several Resident Chaplains (retired pastors, chaplains, and missionaries) who choose to continue their lives of service while residing at Elim Park. Sunday morning worship, weekly Bible studies, and other services provided by Christian Ministries are available to residents, employees, and other members of the community.



# THE POSITION



The Director of Christian Ministry (DCM) has general oversight to create a spiritual environment according to the Affirmation of Faith of Converge (a.k.a. Baptist General Conference) for the benefit of Elim Park, its residents, and staff. The DCM organizes, develops, and coordinates programs and activities to meet the spiritual needs of Elim Park residents following the adopted Vision of the Christian Ministries Department.

The DCM will demonstrate the biblical character qualifications of a New Testament church leader as described in scripture: 1 Timothy 3:1-13, Titus 1:5-9, and 1 Peter 5:1-4. This is an exempt, salaried position with comprehensive benefits that include Health, Vision, and Dental Insurance.



## Core Competencies

- Highly collaborative team player
- Visionary leader with a passion for God and people
- Motivated by evangelism and discipleship
- Given to prayer and the study of God's word

## Primary Duties and Responsibilities

- The DCM will direct, oversee, and encourage the responsibilities of the Resident Chaplains at Elim Park.
- Excellent and fluid in communication of theology and evangelism.
- Schedules and organizes weekly Sunday worship services for residents of Elim Park.
- Passion for preaching at Elim Park on a regular basis.
- Schedules and participates in EPTV morning devotions (6 days per week).
- Encourages prayer and Bible study opportunities for residents.
- Visits and counsels residents and patients in special need or in the hospital.
- Attends staff meetings and in-service programs; may present in-service training as necessary.
- Maintains regular contact with Converge and Converge Northeast churches.
- Manages annual Budget planning and execution in collaboration with Elim Park leadership.
- Actively recruits Resident Chaplains and provides opportunities and resources for them to effectively accomplish their objectives and responsibilities.



## Core Values

**Honor God in all we do.**

Colossians 3:23

**Encourage spiritual growth.**

Colossians 1:9

**Respect the dignity of life.**

1 John 3:17

**Commit to excellence.**

Philippians 4:8

**Respect the individual.**

Philippians 2: 3-4

**Hire morally competent staff who exhibit a caring attitude and high moral standards.**

Proverbs 3: 5-6

**Maintain open communication.**

2 Corinthians 8:21

**Be fiscally responsible.**

1 Timothy 5:8



## Qualifications:

- Complete agreement with the Articles of Affirmation as outlined in the current Converge Bylaws.
- Converge affiliated church ordination preferable.
- Suitable advanced degree from an accredited theological institution.
- Gerontological background/education/experience is preferable.

## The DCM will have the opportunity to:

- Develop and establish a prayer partner program.
- Attend workshops, seminars, conferences as appropriate to the chaplaincy.
- Attend Converge and Converge Northeast meetings.
- Serve as pulpit supply in area churches.





# THE COMMUNITY

## *Cheshire, Connecticut*

Cheshire has been selected by Money Magazine as one of the 50 best places to live, ranking No. 28 among the Best Places to Live in the U.S. Recognized as a safe community with access to nature and an advantageous location. Money describes Cheshire as a "small Connecticut town, located halfway between New Haven and Hartford" with "plenty to offer."

Money selected 50 towns and cities where the economy, job growth, and housing market remained strong despite

COVID-19 disruptions. "The Town of Cheshire takes pride in our community, and we are pleased to be recognized as a great place to live," officials said in a statement.

Cheshire is a medium-sized town with a population of about 29,000 people and five constituent neighborhoods. Cheshire is mainly a white-collar town, with 91.39% of the workforce employed in white-collar jobs, well above the national average.

Cheshire is a good choice for families with children. The town's excellent public school district and large population of college-educated adults provide an environment conducive to academic success. Most people own single-family homes, providing areas for children to thrive in a stable community. Additionally, Cheshire's overall crime rate is lower than the national average. Cheshire is a community built on relationships!





AGORA Search Group is a Colorado Springs search firm providing executive search and selection services to churches and faith-based organizations throughout the world.

Malcolm Schaad is leading this search. For over 20 years, Malcolm has been serving the church in senior leadership roles. Malcolm's experience in recruiting, marketing, and communications helps fuel his passion to fill high-level leadership roles within the local church and Christian organizations.

For further details regarding this position please contact:

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