

CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH -- Pastor

Christ Presbyterian Church in Fairfax Virginia is seeking a pastor for a $\frac{3}{4}$ time call. We have accomplished much in the last 18 months: adding new members, stabilizing our finances, and repairing our building. We want someone to shepherd us so we may continue these good things while at the same time find new ways to be a church. We are open to creative options for filling this position.

Our congregation has 65 current members. Church attendance averages 55 people per week, with about 15 of those online for hybrid worship. Our sanctuary technology allows us to worship online and in person at the same time, with worshippers able to see and speak to each other. Our members tend to be suburban, well-educated, professional, and older. We are mostly white with several members of color, including some families from Africa. We also have several families with young children or teens, a small but much-loved part of our church family.

Worship is the heart of our faith experience. Jesus is Lord, the rest we sort out in a spirit of love and openness. We are informal, noisy at times, and not especially doctrinaire. Joys and concerns are an important—and at times lengthy—part of our worship services. Many speak up, including children and visitors, trusting that it is a safe place to voice what matters. Children may leave for children's church during the sermon and return for communion. Coffee hour—before and after worship—is a well-attended opportunity to catch up and to meet newcomers. Food and a table of jigsaw puzzles encourage people to linger.

The church has men's and women's groups which meet monthly for study and fellowship. There is a weekly needlework group and a monthly seniors' luncheon outing. We volunteer weekly at an elementary school, packing weekend food bags for needy kids, and assist with other school projects like providing backpacks in the fall. We also have a large preschool that operates Monday – Friday as a ministry of our church. We provide financial and volunteer support to groups like Western Fairfax Christian Ministries. We've helped staff an overnight shelter for the homeless. Six Session members and three Deacons provide leadership and care to the congregation and others in need. We care about social justice and have placed our statement on racism at the center of our entryway.

We are seeking a Pastor who will help us develop a plan for our future, which we know will look different from today and which we hope will include the strengths we value. This pastor should be skilled in seeking new opportunities for this congregation and enabling its members to lead and develop those opportunities. The pastor should be comfortable with hybrid worship, fully including in person and online worshippers. The pastor should preach Biblical sermons and share a strong personal faith. This person should have a personal style that is warm and approachable.

The pastor will:

Lead inspiring worship services providing a Christ-centered focus in all interactions;

Preach on a regular basis but with the option to have guest ministers on occasion. Will work with Session to obtain the guest ministers;

Conduct funerals and weddings when called upon;

Administer the sacraments;

Following Presbyterian polity, moderate Session and Congregational meetings;

Work with Session and Deacons, providing guidance, and direction as necessary;

Support the educational program of the church, including leadership training as needed;

Provide support and work with leaders to provide programs for all ages on Sundays and at other times;

Comply with the Sexual Misconduct Prevention Training requirements, and the Sexual Misconduct Policy and the Code of Ethics of National Capital Presbytery;

Work closely and collaboratively with the Preschool Director and Board to ensure the program serves the community;

Lead the Session and the congregation in working on developmental tasks, including coming to terms with history; assessing the church's present and future identity; and empowering the church's lay leadership;

Be involved in community outreach and spread CPC information via social media and other formats;

Minister to sick, shut-ins, new members, and the congregation as is appropriate, and be available during office hours and in times of special need;

Function as Head of Staff, supervising church employees (pianist, financial administrator, office manager, preschool director and assistant director, worship technician, and building manager);

Work collaboratively with the Office Manager and staff, and with the pianist regarding weekly services and special music;

Participate in Presbytery meetings as appropriate, and hold the Presbytery accountable to strengthen our congregation; and

Manage the church budget and finances.

To inquire, please contact Jay Lough ijnj.lo@verizon.net orCarolynn Baer ctbaer1@gmail.com