

Pastoral Resident, First Presbyterian Church of Mount Airy
Job Description



Overview & Job Landscape

First Presbyterian Church of Mount Airy, North Carolina (FPCMA) is committed to becoming a church that teaches and learns from young adults considering Christian Ministry. To that end, we have established a pastoral residency program. We are seeking to offer the position of pastoral resident to a recent college graduate who is considering or in the process studying for their Master of Divinity or who has a deep interest in working with churches and/or nonprofit institutions. This job will provide the individual with chances to work in the administration of a church while also gaining valuable pastoral skills and mentorship.

We will welcome our first pastoral resident as soon as possible, and we hope that this person will commit to the position for two years. In our residents we seek aspiring pastors who desire a comprehensive residency experience in a small town church of 150 regular attenders. The primary focus of the residency program is to begin to learn the craft of pastoring by entering into the life of our congregation, taking up the basic pastoral tasks, and reflecting upon and praying about those activities with the pastor and people of the congregation. In particular, the candidate will focus on current congregational needs, which at this time include leading a small group of youth, coordinating the administration, communication and booking tasks of the church. Our program is designed to nourish pastoral residents as both spiritual and organizational leaders and to provide a well-balanced start to their vocations in ministry.

Considerations for Candidates

The landscape for the training up of the next generation of leaders is drastically changing. Many seminaries have changed their mission and strategy to accommodate the rapidly growing need for ministry training to be completed online. To be clear, this decision has helped accommodate the schedules of those who are not able to commit to a full time residential experience and has greatly reduced the cost of seminary for those who are apprehensive about the rising costs of higher education. But, while there have been benefits of this model, one of the downfalls has been the lack of concrete and tangible pastoral experiences. This job would provide you a chance to be mentored while you explore the many facets of pastoral life.

Throughout the residency, the resident will develop pastoral skills and a leadership style that will help the resident serve the Triune God, the universal church, and future congregations. Throughout the term, the resident will participate in the following: worship leadership, preaching, teaching, mission, church administration, and children and/or youth ministry. To further develop the resident's vocation, he/she will engage in study, be mentored by staff and members, and seek out other experiences to develop as a pastor. The resident will also be welcomed into the life of the congregation and community by a liaison support group of members.

This position should be of great interest to individuals who wish to begin seminary on an online platform while practicing ministry or for people who have a desire to go to seminary in the future. It will also provide valuable mentorship and skills to people who desire to be active lay leaders in their church community.

Job Responsibilities

The person hired should expect to split his or her time between working in church administration and more formal pastoral duties.

- The church administration aspect would entail: (~20-25 hours a week)
 - Managing daily operations and maintaining office supplies and records.
 - Assisting with coordination, planning, and execution of Church events at direction of Staff and Session leaders.
 - Producing monthly financial statements from general ledger, paying bills, producing payrolls, and tracking and recording Church income from donations and sales.
 - Assisting with Church communications and publications, creating and distributing bulletins and newsletters.
 - Assisting with scheduling meetings, renting Church equipment and facilities, and enforcing Church policies for facility use.
 - Building and maintaining relationships with the congregation and community.
- The more formal pastoral responsibilities would entail: (~15-20 hours a week)
 - Leading a small church youth group (6th-12th grade)
 - Participating in the weekly Sunday service through leading the congregation in prayer and liturgy.
 - Preaching once a month or once a quarter depending on the interest of the person hired.
 - Leading and participating in small group Bible studies.
 - Being a conversation partner with Pastor Griff as he prepares to preach each week.

Qualifications & Requirements

- Completion of a Bachelor degree.
- Some administrative experience or knowledge is preferred.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Strong computer skills and ability to operate office equipment.
- Ability to operate independently, innovate, and solve problems.
- Ability to honor confidential and sensitive information.
- A commitment to standing as a moral and upstanding representative of the Church community.
- Two year commitment.

Compensation & Benefits

- This position is benefits-eligible.
- Compensation will be "commensurate with experience."
- Housing will be provided in the parsonage adjacent to the church building

For more information about the FPCMA Pastoral Residency, please visit www.fpcma.com/employment or contact Griff Gatewood at griff@fpcma.com.