

Evangelical Covenant Church of Woodstock

Senior Pastor Ministry Description

June 2024

Overview:

The Senior Pastor as an overseer of the church will serve as the lead shepherd of the church (1 Peter 5:2, Acts 20:28) to encourage the equipping of individuals and ministry teams to deepen their love for God, their love for one another, and their commitment to make disciples of Jesus Christ from all peoples.

Purpose:

The purpose of the Senior Pastor is to be the primary teaching pastor of the church, helping each member to fulfill the call of God upon their life. He is to exercise leadership with integrity, helping promote unity and a God-centered vision for the church to joyfully accomplish her mission.

Character Qualities:

Since the Senior Pastor serves as an overseer, he must meet the qualifications found in the scriptures (1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:6-9, 1 Peter 5:1-3). As a mature follower of Christ, he would be expected to exhibit, with increasing measure, the character qualities of Jesus listed in Colossians 3:12-17, Galatians 5:22-23, and 1 Corinthians 13 and other passages.

Personal:

1. Exhibit a deep and abiding love for God.
2. Be eager to serve, considering the needs of others.
3. Seek to live a life that is above reproach.
4. Exercise spiritual gifts, especially leadership, teaching, shepherding, discernment, and wisdom.
5. Maintain a distinctly Christ-like lifestyle, growing in grace.
6. Demonstrate love, compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience and temperance.
7. Practice spiritual disciplines of prayer and be a strong student of the Word.

Interpersonal:

1. Practice servant leadership.
2. Have a good reputation among friends and neighbors.
3. Be approachable.
4. Build genuine relationships and practice hospitality.
5. Be a role model of sacrificial love as a husband and father.

6. Display a passion for the lost.
7. Maintain a teachable spirit with co-laborers in the church.
8. Display a desire to see Christ formed in others.

Primary Responsibilities:

1. Personal prayer and study to preach and teach the Word of God with clarity, conviction, application, and faithfulness every Sunday, except during vacation periods or times when the church so designates, with other pastoral staff or guest speakers serving during these times.
2. Together with the elders, keep watch over the doctrines of the church to ensure that we remain faithful to the scriptures in all areas of corporate life, and practice good communication and conflict resolution.
3. Be an example of pastoral care and concern for those in need in our congregation. This includes counseling and visitation. Provide pastoral counseling to comfort and assist in spiritual growth and interpersonal relationships. Visit those who are sick, hospitalized, or homebound.
4. Motivate an effective involvement in local and global outreach to encourage others into a relationship with our Loving Savior.
5. Encourage vision and implementation of small groups creating community and care for one another.
6. Model and seek to enhance the development of staff and other leaders through personal discipleship, coaching, and mentoring, to use their spiritual gifts to expand their influence for Christ in the church and the world.
7. Support and communicate an integrated strategy with the pastoral staff and elders to fulfill a unified mission and vision of the Church.
8. Administer the sacraments of baptism and communion.

Secondary Responsibilities:

1. Maintain a supportive and accountable relationship with the Elders.
2. Attend regular Elder meetings, congregational meetings, and special business meetings that are called at various times, giving reports as necessary.
3. Meet and pray with the pastoral staff and coordinate ministry activities with them.
4. Supervise the office staff and review the calendar of activities for the church regularly.
5. Be available for oversight and consultation for the Elders, Deacons, Christian Education, Stewardship & Properties, Missions, and other ministries.
6. Discerning ways of meeting practical needs in the community.
7. Professional development and continuing education
8. Represent the church to the wider community in Northeast Connecticut and beyond.
9. Represent the church to the East Coast Conference and the wider affiliation with the Evangelical Covenant Church of America.