

Saint Patrick Presbyterian Church of Denver (EPC)

Senior Pastor Job Description

May 2021

"Varieties of callings: Within the office of Minister, there are numerous callings. God distributes to each gifts according to the common needs of the Church. These include:

Pastor: *When one is called by a congregation to be the shepherd of that flock, that person shall be called Pastor. As such, the duties of the Pastor shall be to preach and expound the Word, to be God's prophet to the people and to be the people's priest before God. The Pastor shall lead the people in worship, shall celebrate the Sacraments, shall oversee the education and nurture program of the congregation. The Pastor with the Ruling Elders shall minister to the sick, the dying, the grieving, the troubled, the poor, and to all those who have need of a Pastor's care, love and compassion. With the Ruling Elders, the Pastor shall exercise the joint power of government."*

- Evangelical Presbyterian Church Book of Government, Officers of the Church, Pastor

Essential Criteria of the Pastoral Candidate:

1. Committed to reformed theology
 - See Luther, Calvin, Owen, Boston, Murray, Ferguson, Clowney, etc.
 2. Committed to Gospel-centrality
 - Steeped in and actively practices Gospel-centered preaching and ministry, especially demonstrated by Tim Keller and described in his books Center Church (see Chapters 1-6) and The Prodigal God
- Academic degrees: M. Div. minimum

Other Criteria of the Pastoral Candidate:

3. Urban ministry experience
4. Western US ministry experience (or at least understands its unique lifestyle and world-view)
5. Married
6. Between 30 and 55 years old

Position responsibilities:

- Shape and model the current and future vision of the church.
- Shepherd the people using all the means of grace and hospitality.
- Increase in the knowledge and practice of God's Word and prayer daily.
- Lead worship services.
- Seek regular interaction with unbelievers and the culture of Denver.
- Oversee and disciple staff.
- Moderate and disciple the Session.

Activities within the responsibilities listed above generally include:

- Encouraging, recruiting, and training officer candidates.

- Attending presbytery and general assembly.
- Maintaining and building good relations with other ministries, such as Denver Institute of Faith And Work, Agape Christian Fellowship, Aspen Grove Church Planting Network, And Redeemer City-To-City.
- Encouraging and equipping lay leadership, such as city group leaders and other ministry leaders.
- Personally contacting and engaging new visitors followed by a short-term group introduction to the gospel-centered life.
- Preparing and leading a new member's class.
- Visiting the sick and hospitalized
- Recruiting, mentoring, and supervising pastoral interns.
- Discerning and leading, with the session, discipline needs in the congregation.

Personal gifting:

- Student
- Preacher
- Teacher/Discipler
- Counselor (front-line only, refers to professional counselors as needed)

Personal traits:

- Knowledgeable, yet teachable
- Trustworthy/credible
- Warm/approachable/empathetic
- Faithful/Integrity
- Humble/sacrificial
- Adaptable to the Western US culture*

Western US urban profile: secular, independent, mobile, unchurched or church-damaged, highly educated, professional, sociable, outdoor active/recreational, technologically savvy, politically active (*leans toward progressivism*), open to all sexual-orientations, racially accepting, social drinkers.

Compensation package:

Annual compensation including all benefits and housing allowance: \$100,000
Benefits include, but may not be limited to, health insurance, HSA contribution, life insurance, and annual leave.

Annual leave: 4 weeks (trying to avoid time-off the week before and during Holy Week, Thanksgiving week and the last two weeks of December).

Application instructions may be found at:

www.saintpatrickdenver.com/seniorpastor

Additional church information may be found at: www.saintpatrickdenver.com

Profile of St. Patrick Presbyterian Church (SPPC)

Vision Statement:

To see the City of Denver become more and more like the City of God.

History:

- Planted as a PCA church by Shane Sunn in the spring of 2012.
- Moved to EPC in 2014.
- Shared worship/meeting space & office at Corona Presbyterian Church since September 2018.
- Particularized in December 2018.

Size:

- Attendance ranges from 30-60 weekly
- Membership is 40.

Officers:

- Three active (two inactive) elders and four active (one inactive) deacons. One of the elders has been called as part-time Commissioned Pastor to perform the majority of the preaching and teaching and act as interim pastor until the Senior Pastor is called and installed. Another elder is inactive. SPPC is complementarian with respect to elders. Three women serve as active deacons.

Staff:

- Assistant Pastor
- Artist in Residence - music (supported primarily through outside contributions)
- Pastoral intern/organization coordinator
- Bookkeeper
- All staff are part time

Ministries:

We are gospel-centered in all ministries. This is reflected in our preaching, teaching, fellowship, and ministry to the needs of our congregants and neighbors. We are committed to reformed theology and practice, but join other traditions in ministering to the city. We endeavor to be outward focused in serving the poor, befriending our neighbors and co-workers, and witnessing to the world. Long-term we desire to plant churches like SPPC throughout the metro area.

Demographics of Congregants

Most of our congregation is in their 20's and 30's as singles, newly marrieds, and young families. However, we also have members that are older singles and empty nesters. Many young children, but few elementary age and teens. College-age adults and recent graduates attend and are members. About half of our attendees live and work in the downtown Denver area. However, many of our congregants travel from

the outlying suburbs of Highlands Ranch, Englewood, Lakewood, Aurora, Littleton, Northglenn and Arvada.

Worship

Our church gathers Sunday morning service in the heart of Denver's Capitol Hill area. We can be characterized as a future-ancient liturgy which includes readings from both the Old and New Testament, recitation of the creeds and confessions, corporate prayer, confession and repentance of sin, assurance of pardon, as well as, a 30-40 minutes sermon usually based on a book series. Weekly communion is a mainstay and a firm value of our worship.

City Groups

Small groups of 4 to 15 that meet mid-week primarily organized by geography, but sometimes by demographics. These groups are the life of the church where we learn to preach the gospel to ourselves and each other, share, pray, and reach out to neighbors. City groups also rotate in providing a monthly lunch after service. Next to worship, these groups are the core of SPPC

Children

With a large and growing population of pre-school kids, our children's ministry seeks to equip and encourage our children in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We do this through Children's Church and individual prayer each Sunday, along with encouragement to the parents. We also provide support and resources to families as they raise their children to live Gospel-centered lives.

Discipleship groups

More intimate groups where a small number of men or women meet weekly or bi-weekly to work through materials created by Pacific Crossroads Church in Santa Monica, CA. Groups commit to meet about 10 weeks at a time.

Missions

Our commitment is to minister to the needs of our neighbors in the area and of City Groups around the city. Downtown, we join several churches in assisting Agape Christian Church to provide Saturday lunch for 50 to 100 homeless and otherwise needy people. City groups occasionally gather to serve the needs of their immediate neighbors.

Annually, a contingent of the church travels to Merida, Mexico to help improve physical needs of a Christian Retreat Ministry compound, as well as conduct VBS and children's programs.

Finances in 2019:

- Congregational giving: \$212,725
- Congregational-supported expenses: \$197,188
- Outside-supported staff expenses: \$15,200