

# **Christ Presbyterian Church**

Danville, VA

[www.christpresbyterianchurch.org](http://www.christpresbyterianchurch.org)

## **Our Desire:**

To find a man who can labor as a solo pastor or as an interim pastor to help us gain consistency in the pulpit and worship and to help implement and maintain a reformed vision for ministry.

## **Our History:**

Christ Presbyterian Church is a new church who is pressing forward in her goal to reach out to the Danville community and surrounding county. We had the privilege of a full-time church-planter (Pastor Tre' Smith) for the first 4 years of our existence where we saw both growth and attrition. But in early 2008, having lost some families due to job attrition, we saw that we were going to be unable to support Pastor Smith and his family. So we had a choice to make. We could either find another church-planter who brought with him his own financial support, or we could complete officer training and become a particular church without a full-time pastor. So in late June 2008, two ruling elders were ordained; we became a particular church in the PCA; and Pastor Smith took a call to another church in our presbytery. So, we now have two ruling elders on the session and are looking for a man who can be our teaching elder.

## **Our Difficult Context:**

The difficulties of growing and applying a fully-orbed gospel in our current context can be summarized under three headings:

- ◇ **economics** – Danville's economy was built on the textile industry and the tobacco market, but both of those industries have long since dried up. We have had double digit unemployment for over ten years and now hover somewhere close to 17%.
- ◇ **church culture** – Danville is considered “the city of churches” for our state, having more churches per person than any other city in Virginia. Lots of people in Danville feel as if they have a “church home” even if they only attend about once every other month. The predominant church ethos leans toward a fundamentalist, moralistic, and Baptist mind-set.
- ◇ **our small size/worship setting** – Due to our small size (12-15 attending worship) and other circumstances, we have recently had to move our weekly corporate worship into the homes of church members. This makes it hard for visitors to “get a foot in the door”. Also, our size limits our ability to be able to offer a compensation package that would enable a man to fully support himself and his family. Any man who would desire to come and be pastor at CPC would have to do so with a second source of income (e.g. retirement, a second job, etc.).

## **What We Have to Offer:**

- ◇ **a committed core group** – We know that we are the only reformed presence in the largest county in Virginia and are committed to seeing the outworking of a grace-saturated lifestyle under a healthy view of God sovereignly working in the hearts of men and women. Our congregation is not typically shaken by set-backs nor do we fail to look for and be encouraged by modest progress.
- ◇ **an active congregation** – A big temptation for small congregations without a pastor is to “hold down the fort” until the pastor arrives and think that they would then “get to work”. We have striven *not* to fall into that pattern. During the last year we have orchestrated two main outreach events, participated in two mercy ministries in the community, completed another round of officer training, and maintained weekly worship and small-group Bible studies. We are now planning a Reformation Conference for the Fall 2009.
- ◇ **stable church finances and a modest compensation** – In addition to having very low expenses, our membership is comprised of faithful tithing families, so our budget is stable. With our current expenses and our current budgetary situation, we can offer a compensation package totaling between \$20,000 and \$24,000 to be distributed as the pastor wishes.

**Interested candidates should email their MDF and/or resume to [don@metokos.org](mailto:don@metokos.org) or snail mail them to:**

**Christ Presbyterian Church  
ATTN: pulpit search committee  
P.O. Box 4094  
Danville, VA 24540**