

Purpose of the Position:

One of our hopes for the people of Covenant Life Church is that a mature and equipped disciple is a follower of Jesus marked by entering into one's life story, knowing that the Lord sovereignly ordained everything in life for his purposes, to find healing and hope, and to undermine evil. We believe in a God who meets people in their deepest pains and sorrows with his gentle and kind healing hand. Our Director of Counseling and Care Ministries (DCCM) spearheads our efforts to invite hurting people to experience the healing hand of our God.

Responsibilities:

- 1. Counseling and Care:** The DCCM will provide Christian counseling and pastoral care to individuals/couples both inside and outside of Covenant Life Church within one's area of training and expertise. Tasks include (but are not limited to):
 - Offer initial consultations with those referred from pastors and staff within Covenant Life Church and assess if the counselor can serve the person directly, refer out to an outside professional counselor or be served well by a lay counselor
 - Provide Christian counseling to those within the counselor's area of training and expertise
 - Build out infrastructure for organized professional counseling within the church such as intake and evaluation forms
 - Serve alongside of our Mercy Team to offer spiritual and emotional care to those whom the Mercy Team is ministering
- 2. Develop Lay Counseling Ministries:** We long for the DCCM to develop and oversee lay-led shepherding and care ministries for Covenant Life Church. Tasks include (but are not limited to):
 - Oversee care groups (such as GriefShare, DivorceCare, courses on biblical financial stewardship, marriage groups, Journey groups, etc.)
 - Develop a lay counseling ministry that engages the congregation in serving one another such as a lay marriage counseling ministry
- 3. Ongoing Education and Learning Opportunities:** Through various venues (such as panel discussions or seminars), the DCCM will facilitate opportunities for both the congregation and the surrounding community to learn about areas of both real and felt needs.
 - Offer periodic seminars or learning opportunities to engage the congregation and the Sarasota community with areas of concern (such as parenting and social media, marriages that last a lifetime, biblical sexuality, caring for a spouse with dementia, etc.)
 - Teach a Discipleship Class one session per year
- 4. Connect to Counseling Resources:** The DCCM will proactively research and interact with the various counseling centers and resources around Sarasota to build rapport and establish a referral network. Tasks include (but are not limited to):
 - Meet the counselors and counseling services in Sarasota (Eagles Wings' Counseling Center, Forever Free, Heart to Heart Counseling, etc.)

- Discern counselors/resources for alignment with our Christian counseling view
- Maintain connection with these counselors if and when we refer congregants to them for professional counseling
- Act as primary liaison between counselors and the church for those congregants

Reports to:

Executive Pastor (XP)

Liaison to:

Mercy Team

Working Conditions:

1. **Full Time:** Approximately 43-47 hours per week
2. **Office Hours:** We expect this position will require flexible hours to accommodate various relevant ministry and counseling commitments. A schedule will be worked out with the XP.
3. **Additional Responsibilities:** Additional responsibilities, as requested

Expectations & Qualifications:

1. **Ordination:** Ordained in the Presbyterian Church in America is not required but is welcome.
2. **Licensing:** The DCCM must be a licensed counselor (such as LMHC or LMFT).
3. **Character:** The DCCM must be deeply committed to Christ and exhibit an ongoing growth in spiritual maturity and godliness.
4. **Theological/Biblical Commitments:** Committed to a Reformed view of the Scriptures.
5. **Education:** The DCCM should have a Masters in Counseling or similar.
6. **Experience:** Proven experience in both counseling and equipping others for lay counseling ministry. Five years of experience in both counseling and church ministry settings is desired.
7. **Membership:** The DCCM must be (or become) a member of Covenant Life Church. If ordained, membership is required in the Suncoast Florida Presbytery of the PCA. Under Biblical authority, the DCCM must demonstrate joyful submission to the elders and staff.
8. **Passions:** The DCCM must model a passion for and skill in guiding people to the healing and hope found in Christ alone.

How to Apply

To apply for the Director of Counseling and Care Ministries position, please send a letter of interest, resume and, if interested in ordination, a video example of your teaching to Steve Jeantet, Executive Pastor, at steve@covenantlifepca.com.