We are an Easter people. We are Resurrection.
Dear Candidate:

Greetings! On behalf of the Search Committee, I thank God for you and for your interest in Resurrection Presbyterian Church, or as we call it, Res Pres. I wish that we could fully express to you the essence and ethos that surrounds Res Pres and makes it such a special place, set here in the heart of Madison. I hope this brief introduction will give you a clear understanding of our community and culture, as well as our people and the vision which unites us. I invite you to carefully read through these pages and explore the who, what, where, when, and why of Res Pres. We hope what you discover will spark your imagination and ignite your interest in pastoring a people fully alive in Christ, an Easter people – a resurrection people.

Alongside this profile, you should have received an initial candidate questionnaire. I encourage you to read through this brochure several times and prayerfully consider your answers to our questions. Once completed, please submit the following: your questionnaire responses, resume, and references, links to two of your sermons, a copy of a liturgy that you have created (if available), and any other resources that you would like for us to consider in getting to know you and a sense of your call to lead our people.

We promise to communicate with you in a timely manner throughout this process! Again, we thank you for your interest in the position. We are humbled that you would apply and we are in eager anticipation of who God has prepared for us in our work to come!

In Christ,

Joe Catudal

Chair of the Search Committee
FOUNDATION

“But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare” Jeremiah 29:7

Madison is a vibrant and flourishing city with a love for outdoor recreation, the arts, social activism, and philanthropy. We have a number of stable employers and industries that produce a GDP of greater than $40 billion in the Dane County metro area. Madison is also home to the University of Wisconsin, which draws thousands of young people every year to the state’s capital.

From a spiritual perspective, Madison provides ample opportunity to share the gospel to a liberal, educated community that sees itself as self-sufficient. Since the early 1970’s, Madison has been a dominant force in the post-Christian expressionism that is reverberating around the United States. From its anti-Vietnam movements, to current progressive causes, Madison maintains its passionate spirit of political activism today.

The spiritual, economic, and racial landscape of Madison reveals a need for a gospel-centered, Christian presence that is eager to engage in the most meaningful, complex, and urgent conversations of our moment. Madison needs a reintroduction to a Christianity that is holding fast to the Christ-centered promises of Scripture, while presenting genuine hospitality to those who have been estranged, harmed by, or taught not to care about the church.

That urgent need for Jesus in Madison compelled Matt and April Grimsley to plant Res Pres in the heart of the city to build a community who loves God, loves neighbor, and blesses the city. Res Pres began with a core group of around 20 individuals, mostly young professionals. Together they sought to create a community that would be deeply rooted in love and commitment to one another. One where even the most difficult of issues and cultural moments could be wrestled with, offering a welcome invitation to belong before one could ever believe.
We held our first public worship in October 2017. For the past four years through political upheaval, cultural shifts, a pandemic, and a transient community, God has been faithful to build our congregation to a diverse and beautiful expression of His Kingdom. Today, we are a growing congregation of more than 80 people ranging from newborns to retirees who are seeking to find life in the Gospel of Jesus.
MISSION AND VISION

A COMMUNITY THAT IS FINDING LIFE IN THE GOSPEL OF JESUS IN ORDER TO LOVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR AND BLESS OUR CITY.

COMMUNITY
Like any urban area, many who come here for school or work can quickly find themselves navigating a new environment alone without social support or attachment. The community of Res Pres presents the radical welcome and hospitality of the Gospel. Our vision of community is building a place where people can be known, and experience celebration and joy in the midst of hardships that we face. In this post-pandemic era, we strive to have Res Pres known throughout our city for the life we share as a community, eager to engage with one another, our neighbors, and our city.

FINDING LIFE IN THE GOSPEL OF JESUS
Our community is finding that true life comes in discovering that God is greater than ourselves and that God is calling us to more than just wealth and worldly happiness. While we are imperfect, we trust in a perfect Savior who is calling all to believe and become followers of Christ. We are a community and family that welcomes anyone and everyone before they ever believe. Due to our range of spiritual maturity, Res Pres has a deep need for catechesis and spiritual formation. While rooted in the orthodox reformed tradition, Res Pres is a church filled with Xvangelicals, first generation Christians, former believers of differing denominations, and non-believers.

LOVE GOD
Res Pres gathers on Sunday mornings to grow deeper in our understanding of and love for God. Our liturgy follows a historical pattern that connects us to the greater Church and
points us towards the Gospel each and every week. We acknowledge the grace offered in the face of our brokenness, and respond in praise, prayer, and profession of faith. Being in the center of the city, we are blessed with outstanding musical talent to lead our praise. This weekly worship serves as the foundation for our community to build upon throughout the week and throughout the city.

Res Pres offers a Sunday morning gathering that seeks to mold and disciple our congregants in the regular worship of God. Our liturgy is centered on the dramatic retelling of the Gospel story, which deepens our understanding of God’s faithfulness throughout history in explanation and purpose of the historical ordering of worship.

**LOVE NEIGHBOR**

The love received from our Prophet, Priest, and King compels us to open our lives to invite community with our neighbors. Res Pres hosts a number of approachable events that make it easy to invite friends and neighbors to enjoy the authentic hospitality and welcome of Christ. We aspire to boldly engage Madisonians where they are, and to be well-equipped to share the love of Christ in a manner that invites those far from God to come and explore the claims of the Christian faith.

**BLESS OUR CITY**

Through the blessing of the City, God will bless the nations.

Res Pres is committed in our mission to seek the good for our city and its welfare. We reach the urban and university core with our current missional partners, RUF at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the Nehemiah Center for Urban Leadership Development. It is our desire in the next phase of our church’s growth to see Res Pres partner with more city ministries and programs to have a direct, lasting impact on our community and to share the gospel. We also support members of Res Pres, Emma and Brad Risch, on their mission to share the gospel in Zambia.
OUR VALUES

A ROBUST LITURGY
We profess a robust liturgy centered on welcome, worship, confession, prayer, preaching, and the Eucharist.

Res Pres is deeply rooted in the historic and orthodox practices of the Christian faith. We seek to embody the holiness and sacredness of historic gathered worship as both a form of order and discipleship, teaching our congregation the historic patterns of the Christian faith and expressing the gospel story on a weekly basis, following the traditional yearly church calendar. Our worship is centered around the preaching of God’s Word for the encouragement, edification, and rebuke of God’s people, and receiving the Eucharist, where God is present with and feeds His people.

BIBLICAL PREACHING
Res Pres values expository teaching from God’s Word. We hold to preaching that is faithful to the orthodox, historical, reformed, and covenantal interpretation of God’s word. It is important that our preaching balances the intellectual and academic background of our people, as well as the wide range of spiritual maturity of our congregation, while striking at our hearts to become more like Christ. This ensures that all are encouraged and equipped in their faith.

FELLOWSHIP
The primary way we experience fellowship is through community groups in the local area neighborhoods. These multi-generation groups focus on encouraging spiritual formation through discussion, prayer, and experiencing life together outside of Sunday Worship. We also host several focused groups in mens and womens studies, and have a Summer Seminar for more theological teaching and discussion.

Our church routinely schedules parties, events, and fellowship gatherings around historical feast days such as All Saints Sunday, Christ the King Sunday, Transfiguration Sunday, Palm Sunday, and Holy Week. These events include our annual chili cook off (All Saints) and unSAD party (Transfiguration Sunday). Outside of scheduled events, our congregation regularly shares local activities and opportunities to experience the city and life with one another on our Slack channel.
OUR NEED

CYCLES AND SYSTEMS OF LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
As Res Pres is a young, recently particularized church, we require a proven leader and developer of people and systems that can create an ecology of self-replicating leaders. Our next pastor must be prepared to train elders, deacons/diaconal assistants, as well as male and female lay leaders for service in the Church. Due to the transient nature of Madison, a continuous cycle of leaders should be developed for not just service at Res Pres but also for the church globally.

We also recognize our need to help people become familiar with the language, practices, customs, and knowledge of the historic, orthodox, and reformed Christian faith. We are a church filled with a variety of Christian backgrounds and experiences that requires skillful leadership to develop a strategy and plan that will catechize our congregation.

PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND STEWARDSHIP OF GOD’S RESOURCES
We are seeking a proven manager, administrator, and steward of God’s resources and be equipped to lead and guide the Session in the development of appropriate policies and procedures as we mature as a church. He must understand his relationship with and role in the Session, and must work to build unity and peace as we grow and steward the resources that God has entrusted to us.

EXPANDED MINISTRY AND MISSIONS
Our next pastor must have an entrepreneurial spirit to develop and partner with new opportunities, as they present themselves, for Res Pres to love God, love neighbor, and bless our city. We are seeking a leader that strongly values church planting and missions to fulfill the Great Commission.