



FOOTHILLS NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCH

foothillsneighborhoodchurch.com

Mailing Address

122 E Foothill Blvd #A-24, Arcadia, CA 91006

Worship Address

160 N Cañon Ave. Sierra Madre, CA 91024

SOLO PASTOR CANDIDATE PACKET

Thank you for your interest in the pastoral opening at Foothills Neighborhood Church

Dear Brother,

Know that we're praying for you as you seek the Lord's guidance for your next pastoral calling. Whether or not you end up at FNC, we trust God will lead you (and us) to exactly the right places. He is our good Shepherd.

FNC was planted in 2008 in Arcadia, a suburban Los Angeles town in the foothills of the San Gabriel Valley. We particularized in 2018 and currently meet on Sunday mornings in the auditorium of Sierra Madre Middle School. FNC has 40 members and two ruling elders. We average 65 attendees each Sunday, split evenly between adults and youth/children.

We are seeking a full-time solo pastor to lead our small and vibrant congregation in bringing the gospel to Arcadia and surrounding neighborhoods. Our ideal candidate aligns with our value of Sunday covenantal worship, grows our knowledge and desire for God's Word and His church, and deepens our community building efforts, both inside and outside of our church.

Our former pastor, Jason Park, was with us for 7 years. In March 2023, he accepted a call to pastor our sister church, King's Church, in Long Beach. We trust God's gracious plan in this change of leadership! God has been tremendously faithful in all aspects of our church history. He has provided dedicated and generous members sustaining the church.

We are thankful for the full support of our founding pastor, Charles Sy, who is also serving as interim as we seek our next solo pastor in this season of our church life.

We hope that this packet will provide what you need to know about FNC. Feel free to reach out to us if you have further questions about this pastoral opportunity.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Pastoral Search Committee,

ASHWIN RAMJI

Chair

KELLY WHITWORTH

JESSICA WANG

DAVE YU

Vice - Chair

SAM CHUNG

Ruling Elder

HENRY YEUNG

JETT WHITWORTH

Secretary

PHIL COFFIN

VICKY KWAN



ABOUT FNC

In 2008, Charles Sy began hosting a Bible study with a vision of planting a church in Arcadia.

As a group of about 12 core members, we realized there was no Reformed church in Arcadia, and started to imagine what one would look like. The Bible study transitioned to a Sunday evening worship service on the campus of a local Arcadia church, under the name Arcadia Neighborhood Church, a church plant of the PCA.

In 2014, the church leased space in Sierra Madre that enabled worship on Sunday mornings and changed its name to Foothills Neighborhood Church to represent the geographic diversity of its attendees (who came from the “foothills” towns adjacent to Arcadia, including Sierra Madre and Monrovia).



In **2016**, Charles advised our leadership teams to pursue a full time pastor, and we invited Jason Park to join the church as its Lead Pastor. Charles became our part-time Associate Pastor, which let him spend more time with his growing family. Over the following two years, Jason and Charles worked together to lead the church and train elders. By God's grace, FNC particularized in **2018**. Under Jason's leadership, we launched community groups, started a prayer ministry, expanded our youth and children's ministries, and solidified our core values. He challenged us in outreach ministries, and we wrestled with the role of women in ministry and the ordination of deacons.

During the pandemic, we were mindful that we were a church with many frontline medical staff. It was determined that we would worship remotely via asynchronous sermons and Zoom fellowship times. Even as restrictions have eased, we still maintain a posture of safety, meeting in an open indoor space with a Zoom option to accommodate those with health vulnerabilities. We are thankful that through the challenges we maintained and saw growth in our giving and attendance levels.

In **March 2023**, Pastor Jason Park answered a call to another local PCA church which he felt was a better fit for his pastoral calling. Charles is currently serving as interim pastor during the work of the Pastoral Search Committee

STAFF & LAY LEADERSHIP

FNC's session currently consists of two ruling elders and one teaching elder, Pastor Charles. Three elder assistants support the session and various aspects of church ministry. In addition, Jessica Wang serves as FNC's Director for Children's Ministry. Two volunteers lead our youth group. Several seasoned musicians lead congregational singing in our corporate worship. Volunteers also help with greeting, children Bible class, set-up and community groups.

WORSHIP

Worship is the core of FNC and the gospel is proclaimed every Sunday. We believe in and practice covenantal worship. Rather than having children attend a separate "children's church", they remain with their parents during the whole worship service, a practice that is not typical for churches in the area. We believe all ages should be included in the worship service so that children actively observe parents and adults worshipping God. This format poses challenges for parents in caring for their young children and distractions for some, especially newcomers. Nevertheless, FNC values covenantal worship and continues to explore ways to meet these challenges.

CHILDREN/YOUTH MINISTRY

FNC children and youth groups meet prior to the worship service. The hallmark of our children's ministry is its puppet show, which presents the main idea and themes of the sermon. Recently, a beginning Bible class was started. The children are encouraged to memorize scripture through singing and activity rewards. Our youth group includes middle and high school students and is led by a male and female volunteer. They discuss topics relevant for pre-teen and teenage youth, creating discipleship opportunities between the youth and adults. Both ministries organize activities to encourage friendship and fellowship.



PRAYER MINISTRY

Congregational prayers by lay persons recently began during worship service to express laments and heartfelt pleads to God. We also host weekly prayer meetings and encourage private and public prayers throughout all aspects of ministry.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

We have community groups for men, women, and families to deepen our knowledge of God together, facilitate fellowship and build each other up across all generations. In sharing our lives with one another, we bear each other's joys and burdens. These groups can also initiate family mercy projects, such as volunteering at homeless food banks, or sending care packages to missionaries or those in need. Our community groups are also a good entry point for non-believing members to fellowship with others in the church.



CORE VALUES



GOSPEL DRIVEN

The gospel is the good news of how we have been redeemed through the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ. Motivated in response to the gospel, knowing we have been fully accepted and loved through the work of Christ, we now obey. The gospel motivates all that we do here in FNC.



A SAFE HAVEN FOR DOUBT (SEEKERS/SKEPTICS)

We desire to be a safe community for those who have questions (though we may not have all the answers) or for those processing the implications of Christian belief (no matter how long that might take). Furthermore, Christians themselves struggle with doubt and the teachings of Scripture. All are welcome.



ANCHORED IN THE SCRIPTURES

The Scriptures anchor all that we do at FNC. We not only desire to teach and preach from the Scriptures faithfully, but we desire to do all things according to the Scriptures. When it comes to what we believe or how we do ministry, the first place we turn to are the Scriptures. We desire to be a place where thinkers would come to belief, and believers would come to think.



ROOTED IN PRAYER

We are a community who desires to pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17). We strive to express our thanks, dependence, confession, praise, frustrations and needs in prayer towards Him.



GRACIOUS FAMILY

Church is not a building or location, but rather a family redeemed by Jesus Christ. We desire to be a family whose members rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep (Romans 12:15). As a family, we are called to encourage and build up one another in love marked by involvement, humility, gentleness, patience, grace and respect.



WORD & DEED DISCIPLESHIP

We desire to make disciples who not only grow in their understanding of the Scriptures, but also grow in their likeness to Jesus Christ. Jesus teaches us to not only share the gospel, but to bless our neighbors with our good works and deeds (Matthew 5:16). We desire to be a blessing to the neighborhood of San Gabriel Valley.



FNC IN A SNAPSHOT

Presbytery: Pacific Presbytery

Type of Community: Suburban

Type of Church: Church with Solo Pastor

Church Size: Under 40 active members

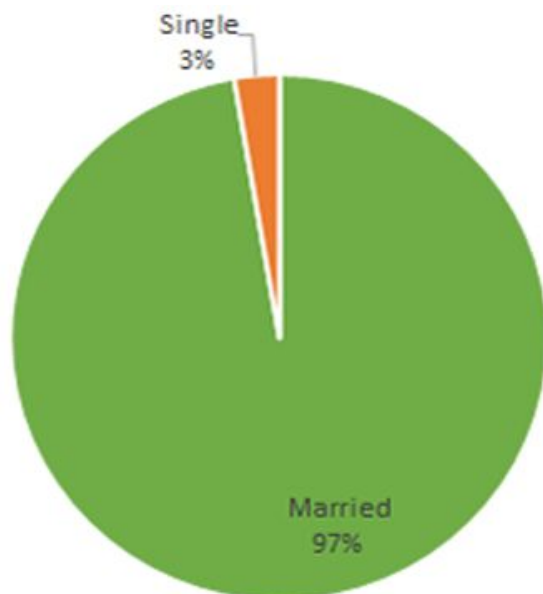
Average Attendance: 65 total, 30-35 Adults, 8-10 Youth, 15-20 Children

Current Budget: \$250,000

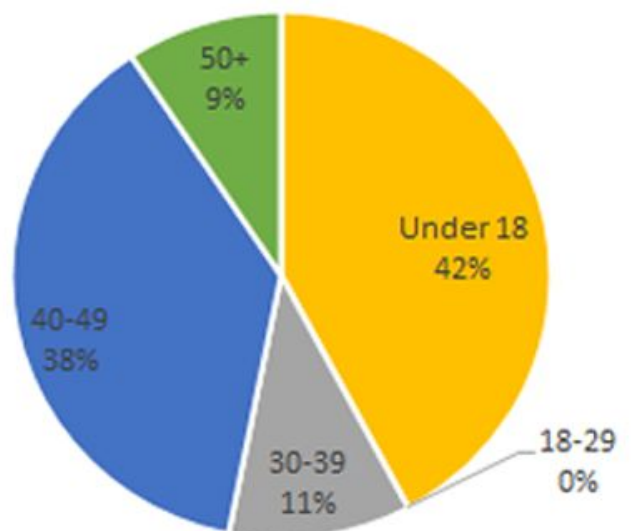
Average Attendees: Males: 51% Females 49%

Demographics: Mostly Asian American and Caucasian

MARITAL STATUS OF ADULTS:



REGULAR ATTENDEES BY AGE:



LOCAL CONTEXT

FNC is located in the foothill communities of the San Gabriel Valley in Southern California.

In some ways, the SGV is more diverse than Los Angeles itself, with a wide range of demographics and income levels. It has a larger share of school aged children as well as those over age 45. Average annual household income varies widely. There are just as many \$30,000 households as \$300,000 households, all in the same city.

FNC's call is to Arcadia, but FNC does not reflect the economic diversity of the city. We are made up of primarily middle to upper-middle class professionals. Knowing this, we are seeking to develop a culture of personal generosity and service to our neighborhoods.



CANDIDATE PROFILE

By God's grace we at FNC want to reimagine community building, allowing the gospel to transform all aspects of our suburban lives and neighborhood.

Through our challenges, by God's grace and faithfulness our core group of dedicated worshippers and additional members are eager to seek God and his will through FNC.

We hope that our pastor will be strong in his ability to proclaim the word of God, teaching and interpreting Scripture in order to facilitate the spiritual development of our members. At FNC we encourage question and answer time after the worship service as a way to openly explore faith and scripture even for those who have doubt.

We hope that our pastor would desire to engage the youth directly, and would support involving youth and children in worship and in the life and fellowship of the congregation.

As we seek to expand our church community, we will need our pastor to encourage the ministry of the laity and encourage volunteers to lead in welcoming new members and to carry out activities that will continue our community building efforts at FNC.

PASTOR QUALITIES

Years of Ministry Experience Required:

Minimum 5 (will consider less - may include ordained or non-ordained experience)

Desired Pastoral Ministry Strengths:

- Preaching
- Teaching
- Counseling
- Discipleship
- Christian Education
- Leadership Development

Compensation:

\$100,000 - \$120,000 + Benefits

QUESTIONNAIRE

Please submit your response to this questionnaire in your application

- Please briefly describe your spiritual journey, including your story of salvation and how you came to be called as a minister of the Gospel.
- Please describe what your personal spiritual disciplines look like, including your personal prayer life.
- Is there anything about Foothill Neighborhood Church or our community that compels you, in accordance with your story and your spiritual gifts?
- Tell us of a time in which you were personally challenged and how you worked through it?
- What is your view on discipleship and how do you model this in your own life?
- What is your approach to conflict resolution? How do you practice hospitality? What was the most impactful book you read in the past year and why was it impactful?
- What aspects of ministry are the most life giving to you? What is the most draining?

APPLICATION PROCESS

If you would like to be considered as the next solo pastor of FNC, please submit the following materials to the Vice Chair of the Pastoral Search Committee, Dave Yu, at dave@foothillsneighborhoodchurch.com



RESUME



COVER LETTER



RESPONSE TO QUESTIONNAIRE



**LINK TO 2-3 SERMONS
(VIDEO PREFERRED)**

THANK YOU!

Foothills
Neighborhood
Church

Thank you for your
interest in Foothills
Neighborhood Church.
We look forward to
learning more about
your candidacy.

