



Church Information Packet

July 2024

Greetings,

Thank you for showing interest in the Senior Pastor position at The Redemption Church (TRC). The Senior Pastor is responsible for the proclamation of the word of God, spiritually developing members, and equipping members to minister to others. This is a full-time position.

We are looking to fill this position as soon as possible, but the start date may be negotiable.

In this packet, you will find the following material:

- General information and background of TRC
- Desired profile of a Senior Pastor

To apply for this position, you will need to submit the following in the form at <https://www.theredemptionchurch.com/jobs>

1. Cover letter
2. Resume
3. List of 5 references with contact information
4. Brief narrative of your faith story
5. 1 Sermon Recording
6. Optional: link to personal website, blog postings, social media, or publications

Please email PSC@theredemptionchurch.com with any questions.

Thank you for your consideration of this position.

Blessings,

TRC Pulpit Search Committee

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1 Our Calling

1.1 Mission and Vision

Our mission is to **live in and connect others to God's redemption story**. Our church is built on four foundational pillars:

- Seeking God's Presence
- Building Community in an Isolated World
- Spiritual Formation in the Ways of Christ
- Mission to a Lost and Hurting World

We value God's word, the church (local and universal), and God's people. As members, we seek to live out the commands of the Bible in our contemporary setting. We want to mirror Christ and be like Him in all aspects of our lives. We believe that our faith should be evident in our personal lives, our local communities, our workplaces and beyond. We want to live sacrificially, giving the entirety of our lives to bear witness to the transformative power of the Gospel as we pursue and discern how God is working through us. We want to pursue cultural renewal by pointing people to the truth of the Gospel, connecting more people to God and partnering with local ministries to serve the spiritual and social needs of our city and local communities. We also want to support missionary efforts around the world and help provide a better understanding of God's redemptive story.

1.2 Core Beliefs

- We believe the Bible is the written word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit and without error in the original manuscripts. The Bible is the revelation of God's truth and is infallible and authoritative in all matters of faith and practice.
- We believe in the Holy Trinity. There is one God, who exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- We believe that all are sinners and totally unable to save themselves from God's displeasure, except by His mercy.
- We believe that salvation is by God alone as He sovereignly chooses those He will save. We believe His choice is based on His grace, not on any human individual merit, or foreseen faith.
- We believe that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, who through His perfect life and sacrificial death atoned for the sins of all who will trust in Him, alone, for salvation.
- We believe that God is gracious and faithful to His people not simply as individuals but as families in successive generations according to His Covenant promises.
- We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells God's people and gives them the strength and wisdom to trust Christ and follow Him.
- We believe that Jesus will return, bodily and visibly, to judge all mankind and to receive His people to Himself.

2 Our Story

Currently our church has two services in two locations. One is in Lisle, a suburb of Chicago bordering Naperville, and the second is in the city of Chicago (Bucktown neighborhood).



2.1 Timeline

- Summer 2010: preparation prayer meetings in Naperville
- September 2010: TRC formed officially as a PCA Mission Church
- September 2010: First Sunday Service at Naperville Presbyterian Church
- January 2014: Sunday Service moved to National Louis University in Lisle
- September 2017: Started City Service (Chicago West Loop)

The city service experienced significant numerical growth very quickly. Sunday services would sometimes fill the entire auditorium and overflow areas, with groups of young people commuting long distances from college campuses near the city or young professionals living in the city coming to attend. The large numerical growth and church leaders desiring accountability hastened the need to form better leadership structures, so TRC began the process of officially particularizing between 2018-2019.

- March 2020: particularized as a PCA church and first elders ordained
- March 2020-May 2022: livestream services due to the pandemic
- September 2020: Lisle service resumes in person with limited seating
- November 2020: City service resumes in person at Covenant Presbyterian Church (Bucktown neighborhood) with distancing
- April 2021: first deacons commissioned

Recently, there has been a big transition of Sunday attendees. The Lisle family population has grown significantly. In the upcoming years, the city service intends to move towards particularization as a separate sister church to serve the specific needs of the Chicago community and meet the needs of members who live within the city limits.



2.2 Our Community

Lisle: Multi-ethnic church, about 70% Asian American; 100-120 congregants (excluding children) during the school year, 60-80 during the summer, as college students are on break; 40% young families, 20% young working professionals, 40% Wheaton College students; 30-40 children (preK-5th grade), 5-10 youth (6th-12th grade).

City: Multi-ethnic church, about 90% Asian American; 50-60 congregants during the school year, 40-50 during the summer; majority of attendees are in their 20s and 30s; <5 children (preK-5th grade), no youth (6th-12th grade), estimated less than 5 college students.

2.3 Ministries

Children's Ministry: Our fastest growing ministry! Children up to the 5th grade are invited to attend Sunday School during service with volunteer teachers from the congregation and a coordinator on staff.

Youth Group Ministry: Grades 6 to 12 attend Sunday service and meet separately to discuss the message and organize social outings with a coordinator on staff.

Undergrad Ministry: Boundless energy comes from our college students. Coordinator on staff arranges rides to Sunday service as well as Bible studies, social events, and retreats.

Worship Team: Involving setup of sound and equipment, practice, and leading praise, our volunteer musicians and worship coordinator on staff are busy leading the congregation in praise each Sunday morning.



Welcoming Team: Provides a friendly greeter, weekly refreshments, and gifts for visitors. Connection lunches encourage a chance to get to know those outside your regular group.

Formation Groups: “Doing life together”- our small groups are designed to encourage commitment, vulnerability, and Bible study.

Justice and Mercy Ministry: Seeks to engage the congregation in the local community through monthly meal serves at local shelter, annual Gospel & Culture series, and other outreach events.

Women’s Ministry: Connecting the women of TRC to God and to one another through fellowship events, Bible studies, and outreach.

Diaconate: Our deacons help to organize congregation volunteers for scripture reading, congregational prayer, and communion.

Sports Fellowship: Summer softball league, basketball fellowship, volleyball fellowship, and holiday picnics to foster community.



3 Desired Profile of Pastor

We believe the pastor's role is to equip members, and the members' role is to minister to each other and to others. Our congregation prioritizes proclamation of the word of God and spiritual development. We value congregational fellowship and have lunch as a congregation regularly. We value involvement in the local community through service and advocacy. Further, we value two-way communication between church leadership and members, and we want to be empowered to take an active role in ministry.

Accordingly, we are seeking a pastor who has excellent preaching and discipleship skills. We need someone who is skilled in church administration and teamwork. Our church has people who are actively involved in leading various ministries, and we need someone who can lead a team, creating a collegial atmosphere (rather than individuals working on their own), and empowering others in ministry. Our ideal candidate would have had leadership training in the past and have experience with community service.

Applicants must be able to be ordained in the PCA, if not already ordained in the PCA. Preference will be given to applicants with three or more years of ministry experience.

4 Committee Members

April Wang works as a Senior Consultant. At TRC, she is a member of the Lisle Worship Team and co-leads a formation group. She is married to Bo, and they have three sons.

Elliott Cho works as a Patent Attorney. At TRC, he serves as a formation group leader. He also serves on the Worship Team at Lisle. He is married to Yoojin.

Eugene Sung works as a pilot for a major airline. At TRC, he is on the Worship Team at Lisle and has co-led a formation group. He is married to Polly; they have three daughters.

Gordon Yang works as the General Manager of multiple small businesses. At TRC, he leads the Audio Sermon Recording Ministry, is a member of the City Worship Team, and has co-led a Formation Group in the past. He is married to Jenn, and they have a son.

Jeff Ma works as a Senior Customer Solutions Manager (program management). At TRC, he has served in various roles including as a deacon. He is currently a formation group leader and oversees the food arrangement for Connection Sundays.

Kelsey Walters works as an adjunct professor. At TRC, she chairs the Justice & Mercy Ministry and has led a formation group. She is married to Tim; they have a daughter.

Peter Sherwood works as a Chief Innovation Officer. At TRC, he serves in the Children's Ministry and Scripture Reading Ministry. He is married to Alison, and they have five kids.

Polly Sung works as an Accountant. At TRC, she is a deaconess and serves on the Finance Team and Women's Ministry. She has co-led a formation group in the past. She is married to Eugene, and they have three children.

Seong Lee works as an Assistant Principal. At TRC, he serves as an elder and leads a formation group. He is married to Yun, and they have four children.

5 How to Apply

To apply for this position, you will need to submit the following in the form at <https://www.theredemptionchurch.com/jobs>

1. Cover letter
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6. Optional: link to personal website, blog postings, social media, or publications

Please email PSC@theredemptionchurch.com with any questions.

6 How to Refer a Candidate

If you would like to suggest prospective candidates for the open Senior Pastor role, please forward this Church Information Packet to them and have them mention you in the referral section of the application form.

For the protection of the individuals being suggested, **KEEP RECOMMENDATIONS CONFIDENTIAL**. We do not want to put candidates in an awkward position or to cause division in another church.