

Dear Candidate,

On behalf of Grace Community Church (GCC), the elders extend warm greetings to you and pray God's blessing on your ongoing search for this essential calling. Our Associate Pastor has recently decided to step down to pursue other opportunities and we are now seeking applicants for a new Assistant Pastor position.

GCC is located in Charlottesville, Virginia, renowned for the natural beauty of the Piedmont and nearby Blue Ridge Mountains, home to the University of Virginia, and internationally celebrated Monticello (home of President Thomas Jefferson). We lie a short distance north of the city in Albemarle County where we are blessed to serve the people of Charlottesville and the neighboring counties of Greene, Orange, and Madison.

GCC is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America. We are Reformed in theology, Presbyterian in government, and locally & globally active in missions and evangelism. Throughout this packet the session's desire is to introduce "who we are" as a local body of Christ. In it, you'll learn about our history, vision, gospel sharing mission, and how we are growing in Christ with one another by "discipleship through relationship."

This is an exciting moment in the history of Grace Community Church. Our prayer is that God would guide the hearts and minds of both us and the prospective candidates throughout the process. Our desire is for a leader with vision who will make his home among his congregation. We long to be led and guided in the Word so that together, in grateful obedience, we can impact Central Virginia and beyond for the kingdom of our Savior.

Thank you for your interest,

The Session

Jon Anderson

Jeff Deal

Peter Edwards

Jim Morton

Sean Shanks

Win Wood

Jimmy Wood

Who We Are

Grace Community Church (GCC) is a member of the Blue Ridge Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). Our congregation began as a church plant of Charlottesville's Trinity Presbyterian Church. Their search committee selected Don Ward who accepted the call to be our Senior Pastor. In September 1997 we held our inaugural worship service in Albemarle County's Sutherland Middle School where we continued to meet for nearly ten years. In 2006, GCC acquired property in northern Albemarle County and built our permanent location. On January 8, 2007, we held our first worship service in the new building.

Don Ward faithfully served as our Senior Pastor until January 2019. In 2020 Jon Anderson was brought on as the Senior Pastor in the especially turbulent time of the Covid pandemic. The staff is also ably comprised of a Worship Director, Children's Ministry Director, and Administrative Assistant. We are also supported by the tireless efforts of six Elders, four Deacons, three Deacon Assistants, and a host of member-volunteers for GCC's many activities.

Sunday mornings we come together to worship our Lord and are led in song & praise by a gifted and treasured worship team. The Gospel is preached and prayer is lifted up for our body, the missionaries we support, and other churches in the greater Charlottesville community. In addition to our worship time, we also fellowship and grow in our sanctification by studying the Word and related topics in our Sunday School classes.

Beyond Sunday, many opportunities for growing together are found within small groups, women & men's ministries, and our youth group.

GCC strives to be Gospel-centered by glorifying God in our surrounding community. In light of the grace shown to us, many of our members actively seek opportunities to impact Central Virginia through service projects with such organizations like Habitat for Humanity, Pregnancy Centers, Greene Alliance of Church & Community Efforts, Good News Jail Ministry, and Love Inc. As a congregation we come together with local churches for an annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration to raise scholarship funds and worship with our neighbors.

God has been so faithful to GCC over the years. We share the hope that the best is yet to come as we move forward during this time of calling our new Assistant Pastor.

Our Purpose and Values

Grace Community Church exists to shape lifelong followers of Jesus Christ through transforming relationships.

If you ask a member of our church, they will likely answer with the shorthand: discipleship through relationship.

We are in it for the long haul

We see following Christ and loving one another as a long journey. We aim for the long run commitment in our relationship with Christ, our families, and one another. We resist the quick fix and the easy path in favor of long faithfulness.

We love as we are loved

God's wrath for our sin was satisfied on the cross, and we are now sons and daughters. Therefore, we lavishly offer love and grace to one another and to those in our world. Love as you are loved, forgive as you are forgiven.

We don't exist for ourselves

As those so extravagantly loved, we exist for our neighbors and for the world. We are the light of the world. We make room for guests. We care for others while expecting nothing in return.

Job Description

Christian Education

- Oversee the Christian Education ministries of the church (nursery, Sunday School, Children's Ministries, and Youth)
- Implement and administer the church's ministry to Youth, including programming and volunteer recruitment
- Provide pastoral care for the parents of our youth and children
- Provide support and encouragement to the Children's Ministry Director
- Work with Senior Pastor on teaching plans and schedule for Adult Sunday School class
- Teach regularly in a variety of settings

Discipleship

- Oversee the Small Group ministry, including leader recruitment and training
- Serve as a resource to small group leaders
- Lead a small group
- Be the pastoral point of contact for the Men's and Women's Ministries
- Plan seminars on relevant topics to the congregation

Preaching/Shepherding

- Preach on a regular basis (about 10-12 times a year)
- Conduct weddings, funerals, and other services as requested
- Assist the Senior Pastor in providing pastoral care and counsel, including visitor follow up, regular visits with members, and hospital visits
- Commit to regularly seek relationships with non-believers and to invest in a growing understanding of the larger community
- Support staff, lay leaders, and members in the work of the church

Job Description

Qualifications

- Ordained or ordainable in the PCA
- A minimum of three years of pastoral experience

Desired Characteristics

- Willingness to embrace Grace's core theological principles and ministry values and goals
- Must be dependable, a team leader, and a self-starter with the ability to take the initiative
- Able to set goals and work with and trust respective staff and volunteers to make it happen
- Humble and willing to meet people where they are
- Able to work collaboratively
- Good sense of humor (We laugh a lot. Seriously, a lot.)

Questionnaire

On a separate, typed sheet, please respond to the questions below and submit it along with your resume and cover letter. Please keep in mind the session is looking to get to know you, your heart, and your communication style. In other words, please do not submit a treatise in response to any one question. Try to limit your responses to 3-5 sentences (or less).

- 1. Who is Jesus to you?**
- 2. How would you describe your philosophy of ministry?**
- 3. How do you take care of yourself spiritually and what are some of your struggles in this area?**
- 4. How do you balance personal life and ministry?**
- 5. What do you consider your passion in ministry?**
- 6. How do you view discipleship in the life of a church?**
- 7. How do you balance ministry to those in the church with reaching out to the unchurched?**
- 8. What is your view of women in the church and where do you see their gifts utilized in ministry?**
- 9. What led you into full time ministry?**

How to Apply

Please send the following to jon@cvillegrace.org

- Resume
- Cover Letter
- Typed Questionnaire Responses
- Audio recordings of at least two sermons (link preferred)

Please use the following format to label all attachments:

FirstnameLastname_Resume

Examples:

- DavidSmith_Resume
- DavidSmith_CoverLetter
- DavidSmith_Questionnaire
- DavidSmith_Sermons

Application Process

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. However, the preferred cutoff date for new applications is February 1, 2022. Applications submitted after this date may not be considered.

To learn more about Grace Community Church, please visit www.cvillegrace.org