

Sierra View Presbyterian Church – Pastor Job Description Outline

Job Title: Pastor

Type of Position Vacant: Sierra View Presbyterian Church, in Fresno, California, a small congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America, is seeking a fulltime solo pastor to preach, teach, conduct/oversee Sunday worship services, administer the sacraments, facilitate fellowship, prayer, study of God's Word, outreach, evangelism and missions, and lead and direct the church together with the session. (See further job and church description below).

Denomination: Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

Qualifications: Seminary degree, or equivalent training & experience; PCA licensure; PCA ordained or ordainable in the PCA; the qualifications for office set forth in 1 Tim. 3 and Titus 1 must also be met.

Location of Church: Fresno, California.

Estimated Start Date: Fall/Winter 2022, or when position filled.

Application Deadline: None; Applications accepted until position filled.

Salary: TBD

How to Apply: Submit resume and Ministerial Data Form (MDF) by email to Search Committee contact person, together with a brief cover letter explaining why you believe you would be a good candidate and well suited (i.e., a good fit) for this position. See PCA website for MDF (pcaac.org/pastor-search/pastors-open-to-a-new-call/).

Contact Person for Search Committee and Email: Dennis Ferris, RE. Email address: dferris@svpcpastor.com.

Description of Church: Sierra View Presbyterian Church, as a PCA congregation, warmly embraces Reformed/Reformation theology, following the Westminster standards. Within that confessional framework, the church seeks to be winsome, Christ-centered and gospel-saturated, to the praise and glory of God. The heart of this congregation may be characterized by love for God and his word, thankfulness for his amazing grace in Jesus Christ, and love for one another. The church is located in Fresno, California, a medium-sized city in California's agricultural Central Valley. The city is a few hours' drive from Yosemite National Park and is the home of a four-year state university, i.e., Fresno State. Although the church is small numerically (about 35 regular attenders) and has few young people, it is a

close-knit caring community of mature believers regularly involved in helping, praying for, and encouraging one another in Christ, and who are interested in reaching out to others with the love of Christ. In God's providence, this may be a good starting point for a renewed work of God. Despite the challenges that exist for a small church, we believe this congregation is a good foundation or core group for the right man.

The church is stable financially and can afford the salary of a full-time pastor. We meet for Sunday worship in a church building rented from a 7th Day Adventist church in a residential area of the city. Our Sunday morning worship time is assisted by a paid worship leader/musician, along with other volunteers, and we usually sing both traditional hymns and contemporary praise and worship songs (i.e., a blended approach). Other ministries that take place during the week, or at various times, include small group Bible Studies, Women's fellowship and study, Men's prayer breakfast, and a Good News Club (CEF) at a local school. We also support financially and pray for several MTW and MNA missionaries.

Job Description:

The pastor must be a man who holds to the orthodox Reformed faith as contained in the Westminster Confession of Faith, the Shorter and Larger Catechisms, and the PCA Book of Church Order. (Any exceptions taken would need to be acceptable to the church's session.) He must love Christ and His church, be a godly example to the flock, and be called and gifted to preach and teach the word. The church's pastor is formally called by a vote of the congregation, but he is also under the session's and Presbytery's authority.

The position of pastor at Sierra View includes many vital responsibilities. Here, we highlight some of the main responsibilities and qualities involved:

1. The pastor shall faithfully preach and teach the word of God, including Sunday morning sermons. Preaching should be centered on Christ and the gospel, should typically be expository, and should include sound and relevant application. Because of the importance of sermons, a high priority of the pastor's time is placed on sermon preparation.
2. The pastor shall lead and oversee Sunday morning worship. This would include arranging the order and elements of the worship service, administering the Lord's supper or baptism, and ensuring the presence in the worship service of songs and hymns for the people to joyfully express heart-filled praise to God.

3. The pastor shall diligently seek the spiritual growth and welfare of the flock under his care, including facilitating vital fellowship, body-life, discipleship and growth in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This may include arranging for, initiating or leading, prayer times, small group studies, fellowship meals and the like. The pastor may, as needed, be required to teach, instruct and/or equip the flock in settings such as Sunday School midweek meetings or small group studies. In shepherding the flock, the pastor will likely need to engage in times of one-on-one counseling of individual members to help with spiritual struggles.
4. The pastor shall facilitate and promote outreach, witness, evangelism, and missions, helping to equip, motivate and engage the members of the congregation to more active participation in the fulfillment of the Great Commission.
5. The pastor shall moderate the session meetings, work together with the session in leading the church, and shall also be involved in the broader church at Presbytery and G.A.
6. The pastor should have good administrative skills, being able to oversee and care for a church body and to make sure it is functioning well in its various activities and operations.
7. Because this church is small numerically, it will be advantageous for the pastor to possess the gifts and skillset of a church planter. Additionally, because there is a need to increase the number of young people and young families in the church, an ability to relate well to young people is important.