

# Job Description: Pastor, Ethos Chicago

*Ethos Presbyterian Church of Chicago is looking for a pastor who exhibits the following characteristics, and who will fulfill the associated responsibilities:*

**A life of faith and integrity, marked by evidence of the Spirit's work.** Our next pastor will love Jesus, will love God's Word, and will earnestly and continually seek God's help in living according to the Gospel. In so doing, he will meet the biblical qualifications for church leadership set out in Titus 1 and 1 Timothy 3. *Accordingly, we will seek evidence of a life of strong and active faith as part of our search.*

**A love of people and community.** Our next pastor will embrace and enhance the warm, Gospel-centered community that has long served as the ethos of Ethos. He will rejoice in opportunities to spend time together, and pursue meaningful, vulnerable relationships both within and beyond our congregation. *Accordingly, we will value a love of community and relationships as part of our search.*

**A skilled teacher and evangelist.** Our next pastor will excel at explaining the mysteries of the Gospel, expounding the Word of God, and relating the grace and love of God that is our inheritance in Christ. He will do so within our church, and also equip our congregation to do likewise throughout our community, where we believe there is great hunger for the Gospel, and for transformation by the Holy Spirit. We believe God intends for Ethos to grow both in numbers and Gospel impact, and that He will use both our pastor and people to accomplish this. *Accordingly, we will value pastoral aptitude, qualification and experience in our search—as well as a heart for outreach.*

**An emphasis on relational discipleship.** Our next pastor will seek to shepherd all the people of Ethos by training them in the way of the Gospel, and working diligently to ensure their continued growth and maturity in Christ. That level of care requires a selfless investment in relationships throughout our body, as well as the nurture of Small Groups and the contextual sense needed to equip all of our people to live faithfully as salt and light within our great city, Chicago. It applies also to our full range of needs and circumstances: men and women, singles and families, students and professionals, young and old. *Accordingly, we will value pastoral aptitude, qualification and experience in our search.*

**A capable administrator.** Our next pastor will function, at least at first, as a solo pastor. That means he must possess the competence and drive to facilitate and oversee the breadth of Ethos' ministries, in conjunction with staff and volunteers—our worship, service, outreach, small groups and counseling—as well as our budget, and also the active leadership of the Session. He is expected to be accessible and responsive to the congregation and to those who reach out to the church. *Accordingly, we will value past administrative experience in our search.*

**A love of creativity and culture—and of worship.** Our next pastor will share and build upon our love of culture and the arts, expressed both in our worship and in our broader engagement with our community. Worship at Ethos is creative, expressive and original, while maintaining scriptural fidelity. Our next pastor will celebrate, cultivate and live into that vibe. *Accordingly, we will value pastoral candidates who share our love of worship and the arts.*

**A commitment to service and cross-cultural engagement.** Our next pastor will help Ethos grow in these two areas for which Ethos has long had interest, yet too little action. *Accordingly, we will value pastoral candidates with demonstrated commitments to service and engaging communities outside our own.*

**TO APPLY** Please submit your resume and a brief letter outlining why you believe you're a good fit to serve as Ethos' next pastor, to [pastorsearch@ethoschicago.com](mailto:pastorsearch@ethoschicago.com). Thank you!

# What am I getting into here?

*An Ethos primer*

Ethos Presbyterian Church started in 2009, and for most of our history we've gathered for worship in a historic theater in Chicago's Lincoln Park neighborhood, with an average weekly attendance of 50-75. In 2014, Ethos graduated from church plant status to become a particular church within the PCA.

Ethos' founding pastor came to the PCA after working at a large non-denominational church, and Ethos' personality has always reflected both sides of that background: more reformed and liturgical than the megachurch, but less liturgical than many sister PCA churches.

When the pandemic hit, our average attendance was about 50. That number fell to about 30 by late 2021, after more than a year of virtual/online services, and after several core families moved away from Chicago. We resumed in-person worship in 2021, meeting on Sunday afternoons at a church in Wrigleyville, but struggled to gain traction there. In the summer of 2022, our founding pastor decided to retire.

Our average attendance remains about 30, and everyone has pledged to stick around through the search. The majority of our body is between 25-45 years old, and nearly all are college-educated. Many grew up elsewhere and moved to Chicago to pursue careers and raise families. All of us love Jesus and one another and are excited for our church's next chapter.