



Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in Hope Presbyterian Church. We are a church that cherishes the ordinary means of grace and follows in both heart and mind the Westminster Standards as drawn from the Scriptures, which is our ultimate guide.

The purpose of this document is to provide information that gives you an accurate picture of this congregation and our desires for our church. Included are those things that may be unique to our body which will help you decide if HPC is the right opportunity for you.

May God's blessings be poured out upon you!

Hope Presbyterian Church Pulpit Committee

Paul Fuchs (Chairman)
Chris LaBonte (Vice-Chairman, Elder)
Julie Poston (Secretary)
Jim Sherwin (Elder)
Brad Smith (Deacon)
Jan Anderson
Margaret Alsup
Weston Stoler

OUR WORSHIP



Our worship is a meeting between God and His people.

When we gather for worship, we come into the presence of God to give Him glory, honor, and praise. Our liturgy reflects the Biblical dialogue taking place between God and His people: He speaks and we respond. We see this principle found in such passages as Psalm 136 and Isaiah 6.



Before coming to Hope, I had never heard Christ in every verse, every sermon. Once having heard the Word so wonderfully proclaimed, I knew I had found my church home.



All His people includes our children.

For this reason, we believe our children ought to be with us during worship. This is their time with their Lord every bit as much as it is ours.

The sounds of little ones during our service should be a reminder that to such belong the kingdom of God (Luke 16:18).

By having our children with us in worship, we can explain what they may not understand and thus take part in training our children in the way they should go (Proverbs 22:6).



We primarily sing Psalms and hymns.

While the Lord has given us 150 psalms, we also sing great hymns from our Christian heritage. These not only bind us together and to other Christians worldwide as we sing, but also to the members of Christ's body in generations past. Through doctrinally sound hymnary and through Psalm singing, we encourage one another in the faith (Ephesians 5:19).



*Great hymns
sung by the
congregation
are uplifting; we sing
joyfully to our Lord!
Joyful sounds by piano
and organ contribute
greatly to
worship!*



The pinnacle of our worship is our preaching and participation in the sacraments.

We believe the Spirit of God speaks to us through the proclamation of His Word and then seals His Word to us in Christian baptism and the Lord's Supper.

And because the Lord promised to use His Word and sacraments to give spiritual strength to His people — growing us in faith, love, perseverance, and good works — these means of grace are an indispensable, weekly part of our worship.

OUR HISTORY

2013

Mercer Island, Easter Sunday: Hope begins as a church plant from Westminster OPC of Monroe WA.

2014

Hope becomes an independent, particularized church when Westminster OPC closes its doors, resulting in many members and some elders joining Hope.

2016

Hope leaves the OPC and affiliates with the PCA.

2016

Easter Sunday: Bellewood Presbyterian (PCA) joins with Hope, gifting their building in Bellevue WA, and thus forming one congregation.

2017

A group of members from a dissolved PCA church north of Bellevue join Hope.



Thus, Hope is an eclectic community with only a handful of members from the city in which it resides. However, the members are willing to travel distances to hear sound Gospel preaching from the pulpit and to join with likeminded people.

In spite of long commutes, our body has flourished. Our aspiration is to establish this church as a light in the midst of a consumeristic and secularistic community.

While we recognize and are grateful for God's providential hand and unfailing love over the last few years, it is nonetheless true that Hope has walked a difficult path.

Just at the time the Covid virus began ravaging our country, we said goodbye to a most beloved elder who died after a prolonged illness.



The particularly stringent Covid mandates in our state separated us for many months. Like others, we struggled along with Zoom and livestream.

Some found life in Washington too onerous, even after our church doors reopened, and there was an exodus from the state, particularly families with children. Hope had emigrants, too, including a deacon and an elder.



While still under lockdown, our associate pastor discovered he had kidney cancer, and he soon passed away.

We were blessed to have an assistant pastor who could step into the role of associate.

OUR CURRENT LIFE

Our former pastor was an exceptional preacher and a beloved shepherd. Due to some very specific needs within his family, they recently moved to Florida. Leaving with both our tears and our blessing, we again faced a great loss. However, there was no contention over accepting his resignation, and he did not leave a trail of division behind him.



Our associate pastor has dutifully filled our pulpit and provided leadership and shepherding.

Even after our pastor left, we have continued to work hard at growing as a family.



*I came to
HPC because
I was hungry for rich,
Biblical preaching...
I stayed because
it became
my church family.*



We have selected a WIC leader who has been actively organizing the women, doing an excellent job in meeting needs we have long had.



OUR LIFE TOGETHER

We believe that fellowship with one another is essential. We are members of Christ's body and He is the head. The relationship we share with one another is spiritual and divine.

Every Sunday following our morning worship service we share a meal together.

We seek opportunities to have fun through recreational activities that bind us together as a church family.



Hope's weekly potlucks and fun social activities have forged 4 separate congregations into ONE church family.



“

*We are a
Christ-entered church —
not just in our preaching,
but also in the way
we desire to treat
one another.*

”



We have added members, some of whom are new believers, and continue with weekly Bible studies.

Some young men at the church stepped up to the plate on their own volition and have been providing a wide range of fun and meaningful activities for us just about every other week. With each new event, the number of participants has grown.

“

My husband and I are so grateful for our church and community at Hope. It is special in many ways — the Gospel is proclaimed every week through expository preaching from each book of the Bible. We appreciate that the Lord's Supper is celebrated each week, and that our fellowship is shared after church services with a potluck lunch. Our friendships with our brothers and sisters in Christ are deeply strengthened by these activities! Our faith is enriched and deepened through the sermons and sacrament. I came from the Catholic Church (with my Reformed now-husband) and became a Reformed Christian through the faithful ministry of Hope.

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“

*Fellowship
is extensive, warm,
and inclusive.*

*I have very much enjoyed
the people of Hope,
their love, their
gracious sharing.*

”



OUR COMMUNITY

Nestled between the majestic Cascade Mountains to the east and the stately Olympic range to the west, the Puget Sound lowlands are among the most picturesque spots of any in the world.

Whether you love a myriad of water sports or crave activities in the mountains during any season of the year, you can find it in spades in the Pacific Northwest.



“ As a devoted Pacific Northwest hiker, I revel in the incredibly fresh, clean air, the majesty of the mountains... and best of all: NO poisonous snakes west of the Cascades! ”

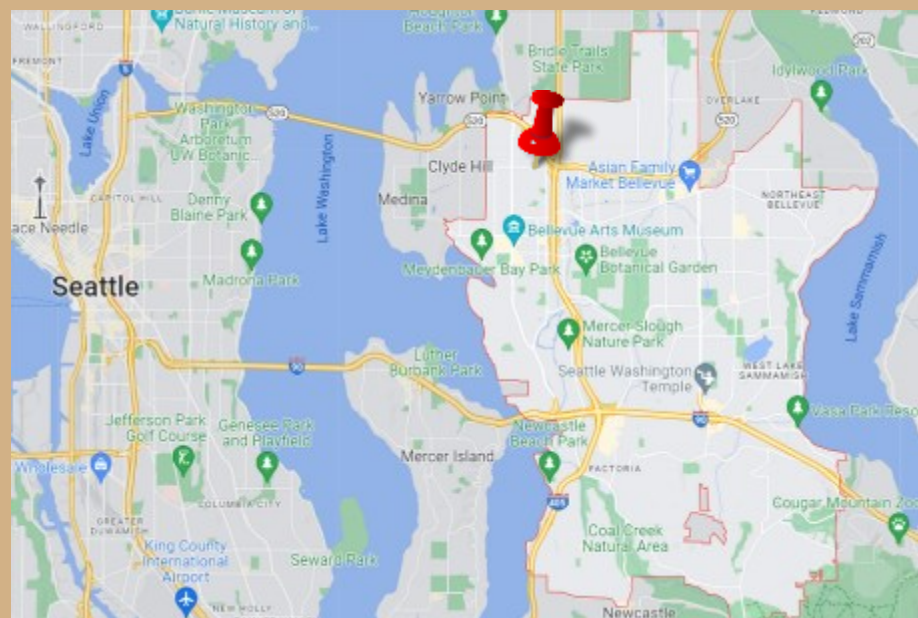




Located in the affluent city of Bellevue, directly across Lake Washington from Seattle with its wide range of cultural activities, Hope Presbyterian Church is in a neighborhood setting surrounded by tall, evergreen trees.

A community park is a few short steps from the church doors and is convenient for summer picnics and barbecues.

And though Bellevue itself could be described as affluent, it is spiritually impoverished, often given the sad title of the most unchurched region in America. While many ministers would shy away from the challenges of such a culturally secular area, we fully believe that there is a man who sees ministry in Washington State as a calling that brings great rewards. This is the man we are seeking to have at Hope.



OUR FUTURE HOPE

Having been blessed with godly leadership from our session and from our pulpit, the people of Hope have grown to be theologically discerning.

We delight in Christ being preached every Sunday. Our pastors' delight in the Word has been a huge influence through the work of the Holy Spirit. We earnestly want to see this continue.

Though we are challenged by how spread out we are geographically, by the loss of many young families with children, and by the shrinkage of leadership within this church, we have complete confidence that the Lord has ordained even greater days ahead.



OUR NEW PASTOR

Hope's new shepherd must have an abiding love for the Word of God. His delight and confidence in the Word should be evident in his preaching, his counseling, and his relationships.

We look forward to a shepherd who relishes church life, and hope he will be influential in our church's growth, our outreach, and in ministering to our community.

*Leadership
at Hope is biblical,
approachable,
dependable, solid,
and visionary.*

HOW TO APPLY:

Please submit the following:

- A cover letter/ resume
- PCA Ministerial Data Form (2017 version)
- Links to sermons or classes you have presented

Email these to **Paul Fuchs:**
ifuchs@me.com

*If you prefer to send a hard copy,
please mail it to the church
in care of Paul Fuchs.*



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