



January 2024

Dear Youth Director Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in the youth director position at Columbia Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Columbia, SC. We are praying for you and this process even now. We'd like to share a little more about what God has done and is doing at CPC, and what our prayer for this new position is.

Our church was planted a little over 10 years ago in 2013 by our lead pastor, David Gentino, after he and his family returned for overseas mission work. From the beginning, we felt God leading us to be a gospel-centered, missional church: to deepen our own faith and experience of Christ as we shared it with others. That crystallized into our vision to be "disciple making disciples in a church planting church." This vision informs everything we do today as we echo Paul's desire to present everyone mature in Christ (Col. 1:28).

Sunday worship began in September 2013 with around 60 folks and we particularized with elders and deacons the following year. By God's grace, in 2014 we launched our first church plant, New City Fellowship in Orangeburg, SC. In 2018, we launched our second church plant, Rivercrest, in nearby Lexington, SC. And Lord willing, we will have a family moving to Columbia in 2024 in preparation for our third church plant.

In the fall of 2017 we moved from a rented space on Main Street to a larger meeting space in the Cottontown neighborhood of Columbia. By God's grace, we have outgrown that space and have purchased a new permanent meeting space on Huger Street. That space is actively being renovated, and Lord willing, we will occupy it this summer.

Today, our congregation is around five hundred strong, majority young professional families, from varied theological backgrounds. We love Reformed theology and Presbyterian polity, but we won't die on any hill save Calvary. Worship is liturgical and contemporary as we pursue reverence to God and accessibility to seekers. We have non-Christians in attendance every week, and we continue to grow in generational, racial, and socioeconomic diversity.

CPC keeps a simple philosophy of ministry that is low on events and high on organic evangelism and discipleship. As the leadership of CPC, we seek to teach, shepherd, and model our members into a maturing and vital union with Christ that they would live lives out of Christ in Worship, Community, and Outreach. We pray and long for new friends to come to faith and grow in Christ.

Columbia is a growing, diverse, southern capital city, steeped in history and aware of its notable place in the South's layered and complex history, but firmly looking to the future. We are home to the the University of South Carolina, Benedict College, Allen University, and Columbia



International University. We have a minor league baseball team, major regional medical complexes, an excellent zoo, a major concert venue, lots of development and out of state transplants, and the best kind of BBQ (mustard-based, in case you were wondering). Columbia is firmly in the buckle of the Bible belt, but there is much evangelistic and church planting work to be done. All in all, Columbia is a wonderful place to plant roots and call home.

CPC is a unique fellowship to be a part of. We are 10 years old, have made plenty of mistakes, and have a lot of growing and maturing ahead of us. God has given us fruit, conversions, numerical growth, a solid staff team, godly officers and leadership, as well as a membership deeply committed to Christ, each other, and the city.

The ideal youth director candidate for us, above all, breathes gospel air: honest about sin and greedy for grace. They are a five hundred denarii debtor and chief repenter. By the Spirit's power, they will be growing in their walk with the Lord and be bearing fruits of the Spirit. They have a true hunger for prayer and Scripture. This person should share the broad strokes of our philosophy of ministry; have experience in evangelism, discipleship, and leading teams; and be both self-motivated and teachable.

The position itself centers around evangelizing and discipling youth from sixth to twelfth grades. Currently, the youth group averages around 20 students from varied home and educational backgrounds. With a large and thriving Children's Ministry, we expect this number to rise rapidly in the coming years. The youth director will be able to build, train, and oversee a team of volunteer youth workers. This person will seek strong relationships with parents of youth to encourage and equip them to disciple their own children in the home. A strong gift set for communication and administration will be essential for the position.

We are collecting resumes and letters of interest now through February 18, 2024. In your letter of interest, please include your fit for this position, a brief history on your experience serving in youth ministry, and a concise description of your philosophy of ministry. In your resume, please include two personal references and two ecclesial references from your current church leadership. Both items should be sent to our Executive Director, Nick Williamson, at nick@colapres.com. We will send you a receipt of your resume and letter of interest and will begin looking over resumes after February 18, 2024.

It is our hope to have our new Youth Director begin work over the summer of 2024 in preparation for the 2024/25 school year.

The Session of Columbia Presbyterian Church
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