



CHURCH
IN THE CANYON

Church & Pastor Profile





WELCOME

Greetings from the congregants at Church in the Canyon,

We are so happy you are interested in learning more about our church. Thank you for taking the time to read our church profile forms. We hope that the information in this document will provide you with a good understanding of who our congregation is and what attributes we are seeking in our next pastor as we prayerfully navigate the process of calling a new shepherd to tend to our church.

Here, you will find information about our church's history, our current ministry life in our local community and abroad, and the direction we pray God will lead our church in this next chapter.

If you have any questions after reading this document, please do not hesitate to contact us at office@churchinthecanyon.org. If you feel led to apply for the position, please send us your resume and a letter of intent (cover letter) to the same email address and copy our committee chair, Jackson Grasz, at jacksongrasz@gmail.com. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this opportunity to serve at Church in the Canyon.

In His Name,
The Church in the Canyon Pastoral Search Committee

Our Mission Statement

At Church in the Canyon, our mission is to foster spiritual growth and maturity through Biblical preaching, Christ-centered worship, and genuine fellowship. We aim to glorify God and expand His Kingdom by nurturing faith, encouraging evangelism, and engaging in compassionate acts, as guided by the Holy Spirit.



WHO WE ARE

Creeds & Doctrines

Church in the Canyon is a Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) member church.

As a confessional church, we believe that the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Westminster Larger and Shorter Catechisms contain a faithful summary of biblical doctrine. We also use both the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds in worship as a means of affirming the historic, Christian faith.

We are also a connectional church. As a Presbyterian church, we believe that our church is accountable to the regional church—the presbytery. Although our church is led by elders and deacons who are elected by the congregation, we are persuaded that the most Biblical model for the church involves the kind of humble participation and even submission to the larger body of Christ that we see in Acts 15.

As a confessional and connectional church, it is our deep desire to be a church where the Lord Jesus is both known and made known—where we are all called into closer fellowship with him and commissioned to go out into the world as witnesses to his resurrection.

Church Life

Church in the Canyon holds its Worship Service every Sunday at 10:45 am, featuring hymns and praise songs led by our Worship Team of singers and instrumentalists. Our Prayer Team is available for those seeking prayer support at the end of our Service. The first Sunday of each month is special as we celebrate the Lord's Supper and hold a church-wide potluck. We also have special services for Christmas Eve with a candlelight service, and Good Friday.

Fellowship is integral to our church life. We offer refreshments in our kitchen area before and after services. Adult education includes Sunday School at 9:30 am, a Wednesday night Prayer meeting, and a Friday Bible reading group. The L.I.F.T. (Ladies in Fellowship and Teaching) Women's Ministry frequently meets for fellowship and faith nurturing activities, including a monthly "Breakfast and Bible Study", quarterly "Sew-In" events for sewing wheelchair pockets donated to Joni and Friends Ministry, various fellowship activities, and the occasional Women's One Day Retreat.

We also have a Session and Budget and Finance Committee that meet monthly. Our community spirit extends to special events like the Christmas Dinner with carol singing in December, and an Easter morning breakfast potluck, open to church members and the wider community.



OUR HISTORY

History

Our church began its life as a Church Plant in March of 1975 when a group of Christians from Valley Presbyterian Church in North Hills gathered for worship in the home of Gil and Marilyn Dunlap. As attendance grew the service moved to the small auditorium of A.E. Wright Middle School and finally to their gymnasium. In the Spring of 1977, the church formally incorporated as Calabasas Presbyterian Church

In October 1990 Calabasas Presbyterian Church purchased our current property at 4235 Las Virgenes Road. By April 1991 the four portable buildings we purchased from the school were placed on their new foundations on our property and the work to renovate them and turn them into our current church facilities had begun.



In October 1991, the church was dedicated and changed its name to Church in the Canyon (CITC).



WHERE WE ARE NOW

Leadership & Staff

We have two current ruling elders who comprise our Church session. Additionally, there are three men who serve as deacons and one full time church secretary. Many church members volunteer to prepare communion, serve on our worship team, lead the men and women's ministries, and plan church potlucks and our annual Christmas banquet.

Church Demographics

Our church body is a mix of longtime members, local college students, and young professionals. We are a broad cross-section of the greater Calabasas community and are grounded in our commitment to God's plan for our church.

Ministries: Home and Abroad

CITC is dedicated to global and local outreach, exemplified through our support for various missionaries and ministries. Organizations we support include: Reformed University Fellowship, Campus Crusade for Christ, Mission to the World, Joni and Friends International Disabilities Ministry, African Christian Training Institute, Heaven Sent Ministry, World Impact (L.A. School Scholarship), Montenegro Missions, Chosen People Ministry, R.A.I.N. (transitional housing for homeless families in Ventura County), San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission, San Fernando Valley Food Bank, Child Voice International (aid for war-affected girls and their children), OHANA Health (formerly Conejo Pregnancy Center), Harbor House (Conejo Valley church partnership to aid the needy), God's Hidden Treasures (ministry in Ukraine) and additional individual missionaries around the world. Our church campus also serves as a host for weekly AA meetings and BSF gatherings in addition to a handful of community events throughout the year.



WHERE WE ARE NOW

Calabasas: Our Community

Our church is located on the border between Calabasas and Agoura Hills, California in a suburban area. CITC is situated on Las Virgenes Road, one of the main access roads to Malibu and a California State scenic highway. Calabasas is a city that effortlessly merges natural beauty with community-focused living. Located west of the San Fernando Valley, outside of greater Los Angeles, and north of the Santa Monica Mountains, it offers a quiet neighborhood feel with the benefits of living in a metropolitan city. Malibu Creek State Park is a 2 minute drive down Las Virgenes and Malibu beaches are 20 minutes from our church.

Local schools include award winning public, private, and charter elementary, middle, and high schools. There are a handful of reputable Christian schools within a 10 miles radius of our pastoral manse. A list can be provided upon request. Additionally, there is a small Christian-based elementary homeschool group that uses our facilities. While this program is not associated with our church, the mother who runs the group is hoping to grow and add more elementary students as her program expands.

Pastoral Manse

Our pastoral manse is a 4 bed, 3 bath single family home located in Oak Park, just a short drive from our church. The home is on a quiet street with a large backyard. Oak Park is a safe community nestled between Agoura Hills and Westlake Village. A Ralphs, Vons, and CVS are located less than 5 minutes from the manse in addition to dozens of restaurants.



WHERE WE WANT TO GO

The spiritual life of Church in the Canyon rests unwaveringly on the solid foundations of scripture, as the inerrant and divinely inspired word of God, and prayer, as a manner of seeking God's will for our lives and demonstrating trust in His providential plan for our lives and this church. From these foundational commitments, we desire to see our church grow – in faithfulness and prayer, in membership and ministries, and in discipleship and evangelism. We are prayerfully pursuing a pastor who can minister to the personal spiritual needs of our current membership while faithfully seeking to grow the church through outreach to our community. We fervently hope that CITC will become a home to saints spanning many walks of life. We seek a pastor with the ability and desire to minister to college students, senior citizens, young families, and single adults alike. With ready hands and content hearts, we eagerly await the next chapter of our Church's ministry and the pastor to lead us through it.

THE PASTOR TO TAKE US THERE

Skills and Qualifications

We are seeking a dedicated Pastor to lead our congregation who is adept at proclaiming the Word with conviction and discipling congregants from all walks of life. We are looking for a pastor with the ability to communicate effectively, encourage team collaboration, and delegate administrative tasks. A deep commitment to congregational fellowship is vital, as is the ability to cultivate relationships within our church family. As an educator, the Pastor should excel in teaching duties, including interpretation of Scripture and explaining theological concepts. Our ideal candidate is passionate about evangelism, living and sharing their faith authentically, and equipping our congregation to do the same, both within our church and the wider community. Additionally, a strong focus on discipleship training to deepen and grow the faith practices of our members is a key aspect of this role. We seek a leader who combines professionalism with warmth, fostering a nurturing and spiritually enriching environment for our church family.

NEXT STEPS

If you feel called to Church in the Canyon, please send a resume and letter of intent (cover letter) explaining your interest in pastoring our church to office@churchinthecanyon.org and please cc our committee chair, Jackson Grasz, at jacksongrasz@gmail.com.