

# Living Hope Presbyterian Church

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#### Introduction

Living Hope Presbyterian is a congregation within the Calvary Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America. Living Hope is seeking to call a solo, lead pastor to shepherd its flock and reach the downtown Anderson, SC, area and beyond. Living Hope was founded in 2011 and has been without a pastor since July 2024. To help candidates evaluate us as a body, below you will find information about Living Hope's congregation, the Anderson community, and desired traits in a pastor. If you believe the Lord is calling you to explore this opportunity, please submit a PCA Ministerial Data Form, cover letter, resume, and links to a few sermon recordings to the pulpit committee at <a href="heathkrosenberger@gmail.com">heathkrosenberger@gmail.com</a>.

# **Calling**

#### Vision

Living Hope seeks to be a confessional, socioeconomically-diverse church proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ from downtown Anderson to the ends of the earth.

#### Mission

Living Hope exists to proclaim Christ and train His followers in downtown Anderson through the Ordinary Means of Grace, including weekly communion, Christ-centered expository preaching, liturgical worship, evangelism, and mercy ministry.

#### **Values**

- Worship simply, centered on the Word of God
- Fellowship regularly and intentionally and cultivate intimate relationships
- Engage those God has placed near us: college students, addiction recovery, homeless and downtown communities
- Bear one another's burdens
- Encourage intergenerational discipleship and worship
- Serve people with resources God has given us

# **Living Hope Church History**

# **Church History**

Living Hope Presbyterian Church was first started in 2011 as a church plant of Mission to North America and Keowee Presbyterian Church. Brett Barbee became its first pastor.

A core group of supporters initially began meeting at a local church on Sunday evenings in 2011. The original vision included being a church that did cross-culture work, reached out to African Americans, had a diverse leadership, invested in the poor, worked in the recovery community,

conducted mercy ministry, called for all Christians to make disciples and share their faith, and had a high view of grace.

Early in 2012 Living Hope moved to meeting on Sunday nights in the Anderson Arts Center. In summer 2012 they began meeting regularly for Sunday morning worship in the Anderson Arts Center.

Current deacon Randy Travis has been with Living Hope since its beginning and was called as a deacon in November 2015. Tim Skaar, current ruling elder, was called in March 2019.

Although New Mercy Ministries is not a ministry of Living Hope, the church has partnered with this recovery ministry since its inception in April 2017.

In July 2018 Brett Barbee resigned as pastor of Living Hope to answer a call to Strong Tower Presbyterian Church in Macon, GA.

On December 1, 2019, Living Hope called John Boyte as pastor. John had been a long-time supporter of Living Hope, serving on the provisional session and as interim pastor.

## **Recent History**

We are a relatively young congregation composed of several families, currently enrolled members of the New Mercies addiction recovery program, graduates of the New Mercies addiction recovery program and their families, college students, and a few retirees.

We currently meet at the Thrift Library on the campus of Anderson University. Previously, we met at the Anderson Arts Center. We moved to our current meeting space in August 2024 after the Anderson Arts Center declined to renew our lease.

On July 26, 2024, John Boyte resigned, and the church voted to accept his resignation on August 4, 2024.

In preparation to seek a pastor, the congregation has done the following:

- The congregation nominated a search committee.
- The search committee has spent time refining our vision, mission, and values as a church and working on a pastor profile.
- As a church we have been studying 1 Corinthians during monthly fellowship times to remind ourselves of the centrality of "knowing nothing among us but Christ and him crucified" and not taking our identity in any particular pastor or other marker of social distinction.

As a result of the recent changes, the congregation has pulled together and continued to minister to each other. Many people have stepped up within the body to take on needed roles and duties and to serve each other.

We are looking to find a pastor, train up additional elders and deacons, and find a permanent meeting space.

# **Our Community**

### **Current Ministry Size**

#### **Members and Average Attendance**

Members: 68 active communing members as of November 4, 2024 Average attendance: 85

#### Leadership

 Living Hope is led by a provisional session consisting of the following:

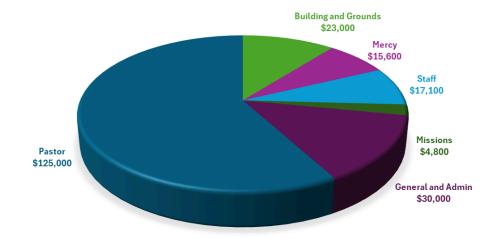
TE Ron Hughes, Honorably Retired (attends Living Hope) RE Tim Skaar, Living Hope

TE Tim Pitzer, Mitchell Road

RE Chris Peters, Clemson Presbyterian

- Deacon Randy Travis, Living Hope
- Additionally, Living Hope is in the process of training elders and deacons.

## **Budget**



#### Ministry areas and staffing

- Henry Holmberg pastoral Intern and music director
- Men's Bible Study
- Women's Bible Study

- Children's Catechism Class
- Homeless Ministry on hold due to facilities
- Partnership with New Mercies through counseling and Bible studies

## **Target Ministry Area**

Downtown Anderson and Anderson University

## **Living Hope Demographics**

- Less than 10 adults over 65
- 50+ adults under 65
- Less than 10 teens
- 25+ children twelve or younger
- Predominantly white
- 25% of attendees associated with New Mercies recovery ministry
- Varied socioeconomic status (professional, working class, low income, and retirees)
- 10% college students

## **Anderson Demographics**

## **City of Anderson**

https://worldpopulationreview.com/us-cities/south-carolina/anderson https://datausa.io/profile/geo/anderson-sc

#### **Anderson County**

https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/andersoncountysouthcarolina/POPo6o210

# **Ministry Opportunities**

- Faith background of target ministry area: Southern Baptist and Pentecostal, Nominal Christian
- Lifestyle groups in the target ministry area
  - Homeless
  - Recovery
  - Blue collar manufacturing
  - Professionals
  - College student
  - o Families with school-aged children
- Primary concerns of congregation members
  - Personal discipleship
  - Evangelism
  - Mercy ministry
- Church program preferences
  - Men's Bible study
  - Monthly church fellowship

- Women's Bible study
- Children's catechism class
- College outreach
- o VBS
- Homeless ministry (temporarily suspended)
- Partnership with New Mercies Addiction Recovery
- Nursery

## **Desired Pastor Profile**

## **Congregational Priorities for Pastor**

- Proclamation of the Word
- Congregational Fellowship
- Evangelism
- Discipleship Training
- Teaching Responsibility
- Diaconal Ministry

# **Pastoral Ministry Strengths or Experience Desired**

- Preaching
- Evangelism
- Discipleship
- Counseling
- Diaconal Ministry

## **Committee Members**



#### **Autumn Dallas**

Autumn Dallas is wife to Mark and mom of 6. She is a homemaker and a homeschooler. Her family has attended Living Hope since 2021.



**Molly Holmberg** 

Molly and her husband, Henry, started attending Living Hope in 2018 during their college years and have since stayed as members of the church. Molly is a middle school teacher at a Christian school.



Sara McGahey

Sara and her husband Jon have lived in Anderson for over 17 years. In 2021 they transferred membership from Clemson Presbyterian to Living Hope. Sara and Jon have five children, ages 12 to 25.



## **Heath Rosenberger**

Heath and his family have attended Living Hope since 2018. Heath and Mallory have 4 young children. Heath is a sales manager for a medical device manufacturer.



#### **Tim Skaar**

Tim Skaar has been a ruling elder at Living Hope since 2019. He is an engineer, husband, and father of three daughters. The Skaars have attended Living Hope since 2018.

# Referrals

Contact Heath Rosenberger at 918-851-7263 or <a href="mailto:heathkrosenberger@gmail.com">heathkrosenberger@gmail.com</a> to submit a name to the Pastor Search committee.