



# CHRIST COVENANT

Presbyterian Church in America

---

## ASSISTANT PASTOR SEARCH

[www.christcovenantms.org](http://www.christcovenantms.org)

## Welcome!

Thank you for your interest in the Assistant Pastor position at Christ Covenant Church (CCC) in Hernando!

CCC is an exciting season of growth and we are looking forward to what God will do in the coming months and years.

We believe that hiring an additional pastor is an important next step in ministering to our congregation and local community.

Our goal with this packet is to provide you with an introduction to CCC and Hernando, MS. In addition to the above we have included the job description for the Assistant Pastor job position.

More than anything, we would love this packet to be the start of further conversation.

Jim Plunk  
Senior Pastor

## A CHURCH EMPOWERED BY GRACE



Empowered by His grace, Christ Covenant Church humbly seeks to be a genuine body of believers expressing authentic love for everyone in Hernando and DeSoto County we are called to serve.



## OUR CHURCH

Christ Covenant Church in Hernando MS, is a **growing** church with 150+ members, 40+ non-communing members, and ministry to 200+. The atmosphere of our congregation is warm and welcoming, and we enjoy being with one another. We gather for worship Sunday mornings, followed by Sunday School for ages pre-school to adult (spring/fall). Our liturgy is relatively traditional reformed. Our families worship together (nursery is provided from birth to age four), and our music consists of a variety of hymns and contemporary songs. We celebrate Communion as a church family weekly.



Sunday School is well attended, with a large wave of children coming through the elementary school ages. Our growing Youth Group (Grades 6-12) is currently led by our Director of Youth Ministries, with an average attendance of 30+. We are engaged with one another through community groups, 2 men's and women's bible studies (morning and evening), weekly Kids Club, VBS every June, yearly retreats for both our men's and women's and youth ministries. We love spontaneous 'meet-ups' and show love to each other with meal calendars and practical help as needed.

The Session consists of the Senior Pastor, Jim Plunk, and currently 5 ruling elders. We have 7 men on the Diaconate and run



a leadership training program over a period of several months. Congregational giving consistently meets budgeted needs, enabling substantial, sustained investment in local and international missionary support, which is a passion of the congregation.

We have recently purchased a parcel of land in the heart of Hernando and are excited about starting a building campaign for a new church building to support our growing church in size and mission. Also, a church plant is on the horizon.

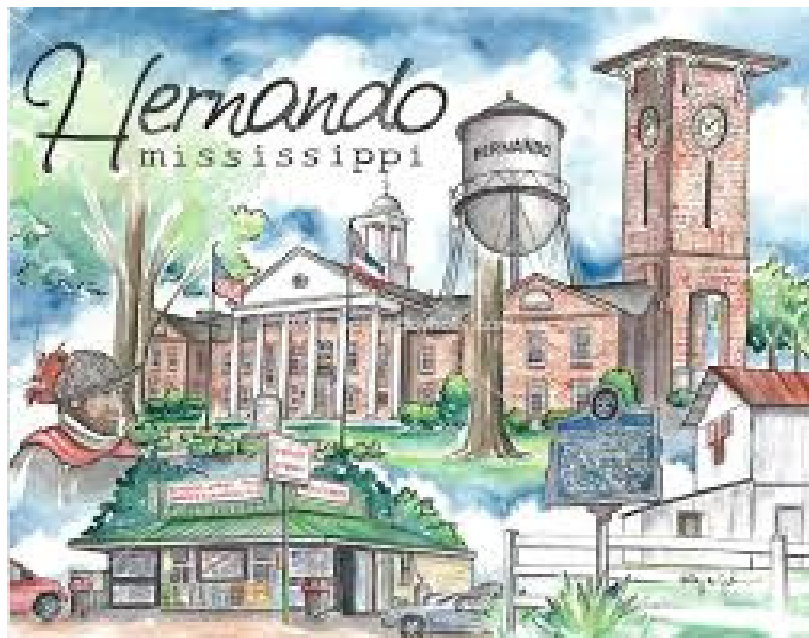
**Christ Covenant is generous with and supportive of its pastors. We are committed to providing a call package that will allow our Assistant Pastor to labor faithfully and fruitfully during his tenure.**



## OUR TOWN

Hernando, known as "Mississippi's Front Porch", is a historic growing town while still holding true to its authentic, small town character, boasting desired modern amenities. With a rapidly growing recreational parks department (family parks, a skate park, recently renovated soccer and ball complexes, tennis, pickleball and golf etc) residents can enjoy programs for the whole family and convenient shopping areas. Hernando was recently voted one of the top 10 'Best towns for Families' in the nation by Family Circle Magazine. The Hernando Town Square has a vibrant award winning Farmers Market April - October and encourages community growth and involvement with wonderful family events that include sunset concerts on the historic courthouse lawn, featuring local bands, art festivals and Christmas events to name a few. Over 18,000 residents call Hernando home and the area is growing rapidly. New retail stores and a state of the art YMCA are just a couple of developments this year. 'Hernandoians' enjoy a high quality of life in scenic DeSoto County. Hernando is located just 25 miles south of Memphis, Tennessee and convenient to Arkabutla, Sardis and Pickwick Lakes, Delta blues music traditions, and the University of Mississippi in Oxford.

Hernando schools are ranked #2 in the state. Children of Hernando attend the highly-ranked DeSoto County School system at Hernando Elementary School and Oak Grove Central Elementary School (K-1), Hernando Hills Elementary School (2-3), Hernando Intermediate school (4-5), Hernando Middle School, and a brand new state of the art Hernando High School.



## OUR MISSION

Empowered by His grace, Christ Covenant seeks to be a genuine body of believers expressing authentic love for others in Hernando, DeSoto County, and everywhere we are called to serve.

The church's mission is encapsulated in three core values:

- **Renewing Grace:** Emphasizing the transformative power of the gospel in all aspects of life.
- **Redemptive Community:** Fostering intentional and authentic relationships within the church body.
- **Restorative Mission:** Engaging in holistic ministry that addresses both spiritual and physical needs.

## OUR VISION

Christ Covenant Church is a body of grace recipients that worships the triune God by proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ, participating in and witnessing its redemptive impact on Hernando, DeSoto County, and all creation.

## OUR EXPECTATIONS

To best culturally embody the above vision, we expect:

- **A vision for embodying warm hospitality:** match our current welcome with invitations to youth and young adults into your home and arrange social events together.
- **A desire to minister across class or intellectual abilities:** socially reach out to and connect our youth and young adults with each other regardless of societal prejudices.
- **A focus not only on reformed teaching, but relational discipleship:** our people need pursuit and value relationships. We hope you and your family will be present with us in our lives where we are and work to connect us with each other.



# OUR OPPORTUNITY

Our young adult ministry is growing rapidly with needed relational and programming attention. For youth ministry, we currently hold seasonal Christian Education (CE) on Sunday mornings, Youth Group on Wednesday nights and events throughout the year. Typically, our high schoolers go to RYM in July and 7-12<sup>th</sup> graders attend a weekend presbytery wide retreat, CPYC, in December.

We describe our youth ministry as covenantal as we partner with parents in raising their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. Our men's ministry has an annual retreat, two weekly bible studies, and regular social events.

The Assistant Pastor will serve work among us as part of a collaborative team led by our Senior Pastor to enrich and deepen the spiritual life of the church. He will support the session in planning and administration, leading our young adult and men's ministries. In addition to general pastoral duties, the Assistant Pastor will be given job responsibilities listed below. However, opportunities are not limited to these areas. Areas of ministry focus can take into account the Assistant Pastor's gifts and experience.

- **GENERAL VISION**

- Under the direction of the session, this position exists to enable our families to grow spiritually in the Lord in partnership with the church.

- **YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

- Meet with and disciple young adult single and married couples and families.
- Begin to design ways to connect them with each other and serve in the church.

- **MENS MINISTRY**

- Lead the men's ministry team helping to evaluate and implement Men's study curriculum. Attend one of the men's bible studies and teach when needed.
- Meet with the men of the church encouraging and counseling them.
- Oversee the planning and implementation of more events during each semester.
- Encourage our "Fathers in the Field" outreach and continue to connect young boys to our men's ministry when appropriate.
- Coordinate the annual Men's Retreat.

# OUR OPPORTUNITY

- **YOUTH MINISTRY** (Working with our Director of Youth Ministries)
  - Plan and implement a gospel centered curriculum for CE on Sunday mornings and for Youth Group on Wednesday nights.
  - Oversee the planning and implementation of 1-2 events a semester.
  - Plan and lead annual trips to RYM in July and CPYC in December.
  - Attend sporting or other events in which our youth are engaged.
- **OTHER ROLES**
  - Attend a community group either where you live or where leadership is needed.
  - Serve in Covenant Presbytery, assist in Sunday liturgy, regularly serve communion and preach on occasion.
- **DUTIES OF MINISTRY LIFE**
  - Be available for staff meetings, meetings with the Senior Pastor, convene the student ministry and men's teams as needed, and maintain a budget.
  - Perform other duties at the direction of the Senior Pastor eventually to possibly include assisting the Senior Pastor with the annual shepherding visit schedule, leadership development classes, and officer training.
- **POSITION REQUIREMENTS**
  - Sinner saved by grace; vibrant, growing, spirit-empowered relationship with God through Jesus Christ.
  - Passionate about the vision and grace-driven philosophy of CCC.
  - Skilled in giving direction to and leading other volunteers.
  - Ability and desire to work under the direction of the Senior Pastor.
  - Strong organizational, interpersonal, and grace-filled leadership skills.
  - Agreement with and excitement about the basic principles of Reformed theology.
  - Successfully transfer into Covenant Presbytery.
  - Embody and multiply our church culture and vision.
  - Ordained experience of 3-5 years is preferred.

# HOW TO APPLY

- **Step 1**

Please prepare a cover letter, resume, and response to the questions below.

- a. As you have read about CCC and our role, where do you see matches in your gifting and passions with our church?
- b. Share specific areas of personal and ministry growth from your current context and how these experiences have prepared you for this role.
- c. Is there anything else about your story that would be helpful for us to know as we consider you?

- **Step 2**

- Send all attachments as PDFs to: [jplunk@christcovenantms.org](mailto:jplunk@christcovenantms.org)

## OUR OFFER

- A call package will be according to guidelines from Geneva benefits
- Salary and benefits will be commensurate with experience
- Help with relocation costs
- If desired, help with continuing education
- 4 weeks of vacation
- 1 week of study leave