

CHURCH POSITION PROFILE: NORTH PARK COVENANT CHURCH SENIOR PASTOR

- **Profile status:** Revisions submitted
- **Availability:** Available
- **Profile type:** Draft
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Church Information

Church name:	North Park Covenant Church							
Mailing Address:	Address Line 1: 5250 N Christiana Ave Address Line 2: City: Chicago State/Province: IL Zip/Postal Code: 60625 Country: US							
Location Address:	Address Line 1: 5250 North Christiana Avenue Address Line 2: City: Chicago State/Province: IL Zip/Postal Code: 60625 Country: USA							
Phone:	773-463-0055							
Fax:	773-463-0099							
Email:	npcc@npcovenant.org							
Web page:	http://www.npcovenant.org							
Conference Superintendent:	Central Conference: Jerome Nelson							
Church setting:	Urban area Near university/college campus Cross-culture <i>Futher description of church setting:</i> We are in a mature and well-maintained residential neighborhood on the north side of Chicago. It is part of one of the most ethnically diverse areas in the United States. According to the 2000 census, about 16% of residents lived below the poverty level. Approximately half of the residents live in owner occupied housing. Most of the single family homes are historic Chicago bungalows. There are two universities in the neighborhood, including North Park University. Nearby Northside CollegePreparatory High School is the highest ranked high school in Illinois. All the assets of metropolitan Chicago are close at hand.							
Languages used at the church:	English							
Theological, congregational, historical, cultural, or other distinctives	North Park Covenant Church was established in 1898. Services were held at North Park College until 1912 when a church building was erected. In 1929 the present church building was dedicated. An educational building was built in the 1960s, included a gymnasium providing space for a gym program for neighborhood youth, basketball programs for youth and adults, and other activities. The North Park Nursery School began in the 60s, meeting the early childhood needs of community children. The Friendship Center, an outreach program, developed in the 70s out of a food pantry in a pastor's study. The Peterson School tutoring Program begun in 1990 provides and opportunity for children to improve their learning skills. The 2004 building program made the church handicap accessible and installed a playground for the neighborhood children. We are a neighborhood church: approximately 60% of the active congregation lives within walking distance. For more information see the church history, Come to the Table, by Stephen R. Graham. NPCC is a church that connects with many aspects of Lutheranism and Pietism, such as the centrality of scripture and the importance of new birth and new life in Christ. Our church is a traditional Covenant Church in our theology of worship, confirmation and adult education, and fellowship. Our worship is centered on the Word and Sacraments and follows the church year. In practice, we have many who are baptized as infants and many as adults, as they together reflect the richness of God's grace in our lives							
Church Finances and		Local	Appropriation	Operating	Loan	Denominational	Conference	Other

Budget: Income and Expenditures for the previous five years:	Year	Income	Income	Expense	Payment	Giving	Giving	Giving
	2005	\$792,748	\$	\$693,004	\$156,289	\$64,293	\$27,536	\$40,008
	2006	\$866,782	\$	\$542,828	\$129,283	\$58,703	\$27,536	\$30,494
	2007	\$785,038	\$	\$680,297	\$121,497	\$58,842	\$27,536	\$23,068
	2008	\$824,192	\$	\$619,701	\$106,408	\$59,135	\$27,650	\$21,272
	2009	\$778,006	\$	\$605,829	\$106,215	\$58,303	\$26,893	\$22,014
Present savings:	\$ca. 70,000							
Present investments and endowments or bequests:	\$ca. 99,000							
Expenditures for church sponsored and affiliated ministries such as preschools, schools, community development cooperation, coffee houses and the like:	\$44,006.							
Was there a capital fund drive recently?	Yes							
What were the results?	The education and office spaces were expanded, green space added, a columbarium built, and the building made accessible. The mortgage balance is approximately \$1,000,000. Major masonry repairs are also being scheduled as finances permit.							
Church membership:	519							
Church worship attendance:	306							

Position Information

Position title:	Senior Pastor
Part-time position:	
Contact person: Name: Email: Phone:	Herbert Hedstrom hhedstrom@sbcglobal.net 847 622-8328
General position description:	Lead Pastor, three or more additional full time staff
Detailed Position Description:	Please see attached document, "The Pastor We Seek," including the appendix.

Preferences for Candidate

Preferred Ministerial Credential:	
Licensed:	
Commissioned: <i>Specialties:</i>	-
Consecrated Missionary:	-

Ordained to Specialized Ministry: <i>Specialties:</i>	-
Ordained to Word and Sacrament:	Ordained to Word and Sacrament
Transfer of credentials: Willing to consider a candidate in the process of transferring his or her credentials into the ECC?	Yes
Bi-vocational position:	No
Preferred Degrees:	MDiv Must match exactly
Required Languages:	English Other: A second language would be a plus, but is not required
Church Revitalization:	
Additional Documents:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrative Profile • Budget Comments • The Pastor We Seek • NPCC Veritas • Financial Data

Style of Ministry

Presently, the FOCUS OF OUR CHURCH'S MINISTRY is	External	The community exclusively	The community primarily	The community and believers equally	Believers primarily	Believers exclusively	Internal
				○			
We believe that it is largely through our church congregation that we minister to the world around us. We therefore do not think there is necessarily a conflict between internal and external ministry. We would like to do a better job of ministering both externally and internally, but do not want to chose one in favor of the other.							
Our church's FACILITY (buildings and grounds) is	Casual	Casual (house)	Informal (rented school)	Typical (like other area buildings)	Upscale (one of the nicer area buildings)	Formal (traditional sanctuary)	Formal
						○	
The church building, constructed in 1929 in the popular neo-gothic style, seats more than 600. A 3-aisle nave with pillars and stained glass leads one up to the altar and pulpit of ornately detailed woodwork. The choir loft and pipe organ lie beyond. A three panel window high over the chancel brings additional light and glory into the space. The exposed wood trusses and wood ceiling provide old-world warmth. The lower level of the church building houses the Parlors-the church's large social gathering space and its kitchen. Attached to the Church Building is the 1960s Education Building. In it are church offices, conference and meeting rooms, the Sunday School program and the North Park Preschool. The top level includes a gym and the teen room. In 2004 the Education Building received a two million dollar renovation to make the church facility accessible. Work included a new head pastor's study, additional office space and classrooms, an elevator, accessible washrooms, and a columbarium. An added benefit was a new outdoor play space on the South Lawn. This provides a much-needed green space for the church, the preschool and the children of the neighborhood. East of the South Lawn is the church owned two flat. In the summer of 2009 the first floor two-bedroom unit was gutted and completely remodeled to serve as the parsonage for the interim pastor. (Recent senior pastors have owned their own homes.) The upstairs unit is usually rented to friends/members of the church.							
In our church, the WORSHIP SERVICE IS DESIGNED FOR	Unchurched	Designed for unchurched	Emphasis on unchurched	Unchurched and believers	Emphasis on believers	Designed for believers	Churched
					○		
Please see the attached summary of our Veritas findings regarding worship.							
In our church,							

<p>the WORSHIP SERVICE IS BASED ON</p>	Based on the lectionary	Always based on the lectionary	Frequently based on the lectionary	Balanced	Frequently based on a Bible book or topical series	Always based on a Bible book or topical series	Based on a Bible book or topical series
		o					
<p>Actually we are somewhere between "always" and "frequently." We appreciate the inclusion of all four lectionary texts in the service, and the sense of movement through the life of Jesus and the emphases of the church year. We are, however, open to occasional series, particularly during the long Pentecost season.</p>							
<p>In our church, the STYLE OF MUSIC used in the worship service is</p>	Contemporary	Contemporary	Mostly contemporary	Blended	Mostly traditional	Traditional	Traditional
						o	
<p>See the attached Veritas summary for an understanding of music at North Park Covenant Church. We do not understand "traditional" to mean just "old and familiar." Our view of music is structured, we love music, and many elements go into it. While we value the organ and choir we utilize many other instruments (brass, drums, harp, guitar, flute, bells) especially on high Sundays. Our congregational singing is excellent, and we sing mostly from the hymnal. Our staff musicians are classically trained, however they experiment with other genres, including gospel and praise music. We also have a string band.</p>							
<p>In our church, the PURPOSE OF THE SERMON is</p>	Evangelism	Always evangelism	Primarily evangelism	Balanced	Primarily formation	Always formation	Formation
				o			
<p>The congregation values preaching that connects with living issues and with the heart, not just the head. We want to hear the good news that carries us through the week and that challenges our walk.</p>							
<p>In our church, the FORM OF THE SERMON is</p>	Thematic (topical)	Predominantly thematic	Frequently thematic	Balanced (50/50)	Frequently exposition	Predominantly exposition	Exposition (main text)
					o		
<p>We seek preaching that isn't just a message about the Bible but is rather the proclamation of the message of the Bible. A sermon transmits information but it also should always encourage transformation. Generally (but not always) sermons at North Park Covenant Church are built on the lectionary texts.</p>							
<p>In our church, LEADERSHIP is generally provided by the</p>	Laity	Predominantly lay leaders	Frequently lay leaders	Lay leaders and pastoral staff share leadership	Lay leaders function under the pastoral staff	Predominantly the pastoral staff	Pastoral Staff
				o			
<p>Our pastor will enjoy the benefits of a very gifted and capable congregation. We have a strong history of lay leadership and initiation.</p>							
<p>Our church seeks to ENCOURAGE SPIRITUAL GROWTH through</p>	Informal	No specific ministries	Ministries for a few groups	Ministries for selected groups	Ministries for most groups	Ministries for all groups	Formal
						o	
<p>We seek to encourage spiritual growth in everything we do, and see our answer here as an indication of that aspiration. We have a history of developing programs to meet new needs, and look forward to working with our new pastor on some specific needs, such as young adult ministries.</p>							
<p>In our church, EVANGELISM STRATEGIES AND METHODS are</p>	Unplanned	Predominantly unplanned	Generally unplanned	Equal emphasis	Generally planned	Predominantly planned	Planned
					o		
<p>When evangelism occurs it is largely planned. We recognize the need both for more planning and for encouraging the kind of evangelism that consists of one beggar telling another where to find bread.</p>							
<p>Our church is representative of the ECONOMIC DIVERSITY of our community</p>	High representation	Strongly representative	Mostly representative	Moderately representative	Mildly representative	Weakly representative	Low representation
				o			

	<p>We represent the middle class component of the surrounding community. We recognize that we will never be a mirror image of the diverse neighborhood, but we would like to become more representative.</p>						
<p>Our church is representative of the ETHNIC DIVERSITY of our community</p>	High representation	Strongly representative	Mostly representative	Moderately representative	Mildly representative	Weakly representative	Low representation
					○		
	<p>There are some groups in our extremely diverse community we will always have difficulty reaching--recent immigrants, Muslims, Jews, and Catholics, for example--but others whom we should be able to reach. In various ways we minister to the entire community, through, for example the North Park Friendship Center and our tutoring program. We welcome the leadership of a pastor who will help us share the gospel with those around us and help us build a more diverse congregation.</p>						
<p>Our church's RESPONSE TO COMPASSION, MERCY, AND JUSTICE NEEDS is</p>	Church-based	Commitment to church-based action	Encouragement of church-based action	Church-based and personal action	Encouragement of personal action	Commitment to personal action	Personal
				○			
	<p>Our congregation has a receptive ear to issues of compassion, mercy and justice especially when these concerns are given a personal face, such as funding cuts in our local school. Our church just began a community garden this past year to provide food for the Friendship Center that is now being used by an African refugee family to grow their own food. We are a chapter of Bread for the World. Engagement in action on the part of the church and individuals is encouraged but is not currently a driving force as it was in the 1960's. Individual members of the church are engaged in many different issues both in their work and personal commitments.</p>						
<p>Our church's MISSIONAL FOCUS is</p>	Local	All local	Mostly local	Equally local and global	Mostly global	All global	Global
				○			
	<p>We have a strong history of supporting world mission and several missionaries on home assignment as well as a number of retired missionaries make NPCC their church home. We also are committed to local endeavors as previously noted.</p>						

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