

## **General Description of the Role of Senior Pastor at GracePoint Church, Dubuque, Iowa:**

GracePoint Church desires a senior pastor who exudes a love relationship with our Lord, is rooted in the Scriptures, has a passion for and personal practice of making disciples, and whose doctrinal views are consistent with those of the EPC. The pastor should aspire to as well as reflect the character qualities for leadership as reflected in 1 Timothy 3:1-7. The Senior Pastor, in their commitment to the Gospel, shall be devoted to the service of Christ and the church, preaching and teaching the Word of God, administering the sacraments, and faithfully giving oneself to pastoral work. The Senior Pastor will preach at most worship services, be integrally involved in the design of worship, enable the church to discern God's vision, work closely with the Session, coach and disciple the staff and elders in their spiritual and ministry development, and partner with lay leadership to empower church ministries. The Senior Pastor shall lead the church to fulfill its vision statement:

### **GOD'S VISION FOR GRACEPOINT**

GracePoint will be a fellowship of people in brokenness embraced by God's extravagant grace, and sent into mission to reclaim the captive, restore the wounded, and redeploy the equipped. As we live and share the gospel of grace, seekers and believers of all ages will become devoted Christ-followers who engage in proclaiming and embodying God's Word, persevering Prayer, passionate Worship, life-changing Fellowship, life-long Equipping, life-encompassing Stewardship, and life-giving Missional Outreach.

We will be a place of grace, a people of prayer, and a partner with God as we love God through...

Passionate WORSHIP, ushering people into God's glorious presence Jn 4:23

God delights in us and desires us to delight in Him. In worship, we come to God with all our sin, sorrow, and struggle and encounter God's forgiving, comforting, and empowering presence. We believe worship is primarily for believers to connect with God.

Persevering PRAYER, partnering with God to manifest God's kingdom Col 4:2

God's power, promises, and kingdom plans are appropriated through fervent prayer. Everything in the Christian life flows out of intimate relationship with the Trinity, and prayer is God's gift to foster such intimacy.

Proclaiming and Embodying GOD'S WORD, shaping who we are and how we live Jn 1:14

Jesus Christ is the Living Word and so truth is relational. Through the Bible, we encounter the Father's heart of love, the Son's gospel of grace, and the Holy Spirit's power so that we may love and worship God, become who we are as God's adopted children, and participate in God's redemptive plans.

We will be a place of grace, a people of prayer, and a partner with God as we love people through...

Life-changing FELLOWSHIP, offering a safe place to belong, believe, and be real 1 Jn 1:3

God's kingdom plan for all creation is to dwell in intimate relationship with the triune God and with one another. We foster a taste of such relationships through small groups and in all aspects of our life together.

Life-long EQUIPPING, empowering people of all ages to live missionally Heb 13:21

God's purpose for the Church is to make passionate, devoted Christ-followers who live and love like Jesus. We engage in discipleship that is comprehensive from conversion to maturity, and encourages and equips believers to live as those called to participate in the mission of God.

Life-giving MISSIONAL OUTREACH, reclaiming God's people and world Mt 28:18-20

Our missionary God's primary activity is "seeking and saving the lost." Thus, Christ calls us to live and proclaim the gospel as the primary thing in all we are and do. We engage in and support local and global outreach demonstrating Christ's love, power, and grace and expanding God's kingdom reign over individuals and society.

Life-encompassing STEWARDSHIP, declaring Christ as Lord over all our life Lk16:10-12

Our creator God has placed the human race as stewards over Earth. We seek to be faithful and trustworthy stewards of all the people, property, and resources God has placed under our care individually and corporately.

### **What is it at the heart of what we want from our Senior Pastor?**

1. Shepherd the congregation through Sunday messages, which reflect an in-depth understanding of God's Word and textual preaching, contain real-life illustrations, and is applied to the current life-setting of our congregation.
2. Lead the church in developing an intentional, relational approach to making disciples. Coach and nurture the staff and elders individually and corporately.
3. View the Session as your personal flock.
4. Develop a synergistic ministry relationship between the staff and the Session.
5. Prayerfully collaborate with staff and Session to sense God's vision for GracePoint Church with a plan to implement it. This would entail a specific way to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.
6. Regularly get beyond the church into the community to foster relationships with people who need to explore or come to Christ.
7. Be a warm, personal presence that invites connection through listening.

### **What do we want for our Senior Pastor?**

We want to provide a life-giving environment so that our pastor can minister out of joy in the Lord and will be with us for many years to come.

1. Work with the senior pastor to find rhythms of continuous renewal (i.e. weekly sabbath, private retreats, annual renewal opportunities). We understand effective leadership requires the time and ability to listen to the Lord in an unhurried fashion.
2. Guard the appropriate blocks of time weekly, quarterly, and annually to prepare for effective, in-depth preaching/teaching.
3. Guard family time with your spouse and children.
4. Encourage the vision, passion, and gifts that a pastor brings to us. We want to provide a life-giving environment so that our pastor can minister out of joy in the Lord and will be with us for many years to come.

### **DESIRED SKILLS**

- Effective Biblical preaching and teaching
- Personal, relational disciple-making
- Problem-solving and listening skills
- Interpersonal relational skills
- Collaboration and team-building

- Oral and written communication
- Effective time management
- Ability to build partnerships in mission, ministry, and community
- Ability to work with a broad diversity of ages and groups
- Timely response to communications and issues
- Vision for an online presence

#### **ACCOUNTABILITY**

The pastor, called primarily to the Word and sacrament, will be the senior member of the church staff, responsible to GracePoint Church and to Rivers & Lakes Presbytery. The role and responsibilities of the pastor may be further refined from time to time as indicated by the needs of the church and by the mutual agreement of the pastor and the Session, so long as such agreement does not conflict with the provisions of the EPC Confessional Standards or the provisions of the terms of call.

**To inquire about the position of Senior Pastor at GracePoint Church, Dubuque, Iowa, please contact us via email: [office@gracepointdbq.org](mailto:office@gracepointdbq.org)**