

Westminster Presbyterian Church Belconnen (ACT)

Co-Pastor Job Description

Teaching Elder Position

The Westminster Presbyterian Church Belconnen (WPCB) in the ACT is seeking a full-time second pastor to assist the current Teaching Elder and Ruling Elders (Session) in overseeing the ministry work of the church.

WPCB consists of a congregation coming from a variety of ethnic backgrounds, with a good representation across all age groups. Some distinctives are that we are committed to a one-congregation model with morning and evening services, with all-family attendance at the services. (Teaching focused for distinct segments of the congregation, such as children's Sunday School, is conducted outside the worship services.)

Currently the Session is led by a Ruling Elder and we are committed to fostering a culture of Team Leadership. We envision that with having two Teaching Elders, neither of whom will be deemed more significant than the other, however it may be that Session in recognising giftings will appoint one to be a lead Pastor at some stage in the future.

Qualification Requirements

Essential

- Be qualified for and committed to ordination in the Westminster Presbyterian Church as a Teaching Elder (thus committed to the church's form of governance, as outlined in our Book of Church Order, and doctrinal standard, the Westminster Confession of Faith)
- Have significant work experience as a pastor or equivalent in Christian ministry
- Hold a recognised theology degree

Character Requirements

The candidate must be assessed as meeting the requirements of elders within their current congregation as outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9

Responsibilities / Duties

As a member of the Session, you will be jointly responsible with the other elders for the wise governance of the church in accordance with the principles revealed by God in

Scripture and as applied in our denominational Book of Church Order and our WPCB constitution.

Your responsibilities, duties and obligations will include the following:

Preaching

- Complement the current pastor to increase the overall teaching breadth through preaching and teaching via various means and activities.
- Share the preaching load across both morning and evening services.
 - Note our usual practice is for worship services to be led by men appointed by Session, however the Teaching Elders will also be involved in this in addition to preaching

Pastoral Oversight/Care

- Co-pastor in the general oversight of the whole congregation.
- Assist Session with particular oversight of each individual in the congregation.
- Between them, the Pastors are expected to visit each member family at least once per year.

Group Bible Study and Prayer

- Work with Session to revitalise our group Bible study and prayer culture and reshape programs as appropriate.

Training

- Assist in training and mentoring of men with ministry aspirations
- Assist in developing leadership qualities in men, including teaching and preaching.
- Support the development of leadership qualities in women as appropriate.

Discipleship

- Work together with Session to further develop our culture of 1-on-1 and small-group discipleship.
- Contribute to improving the integration of people from other nations into the life of the church.

Evangelism / Outreach

- Contribute to further establishing and fostering our personal outreach culture.
- Encourage and participate in exploring opportunities for outreach and church planting.

Fostering Connections

- Assist in fostering our connections with other like-minded churches and parachurch groups.

General

- Involvement in Christmas and Good Friday services.
- Attend Session meetings (once per month).
- Attend Presbytery meetings (once per quarter).
- Attend Synod at WPCB's expense (currently every eighteen months).
- Attend the annual Church Retreat with family.
- Attend the AGM and assist with the Pastor's report.
- Attend other congregational meetings as required.
- The Pastors are expected to occupy an office at the WPCB premises during regular working hours; however, it is expected that the Pastors will take one weekday off in lieu of Sunday work.
- The Pastors are expected to be available at reasonable times to address spiritual and other issues raised by members or regular attendees.
- The Pastors are expected to conduct the Lord's Supper, baptisms, marriages, and funerals as required.

Applications

To apply for this position, please send the following to admin@wpcb.org.au

- a cover letter introducing yourself and briefly outlining your suitability
- a current curriculum vitae
- at least two references, one personal and two ministry-related

Phone queries relating to the position can be made to the following number:

02 6210 1091

Andrew James

WPCB Session Clerk