

PASTOR SEARCH

First Presbyterian Church of Jasper, Indiana

About Our Church

The First Presbyterian Church of Jasper (FPCJ) is a historical church with roots dating back to 1817 to make it the first church in the Jasper area. It is in a relatively new building (2002) and sits on 5 acres in Jasper located on a major street in the midst of the city. The church is debt free.

What we don't have is a shepherd, a leader, a pastor. The congregation has dwindled down to just a handful of committed, determined members. This has primarily occurred due to splitting from the PCUSA and a tenuous journey in seeking another affiliation. Our church has just recently been accepted into the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARPC) of the Missouri Valley Presbytery.

We are just loaves and fish knowing that this is how God works. There are lots of churches of various denominations and a large Catholic presence, but no other reformed Presbyterian churches are within a 60 mile radius of Jasper. A large portion of the population is un-churched.

We are excited about what He will do and seek a man to catch this vision of growing a vibrant, discipleship building, missional and gospel proclaiming community. We desire a man who understands and unpacks the Gospel in all of life. We envision young people, families and children here, multi generational and being a welcoming light to this community. The right fit would be an outgoing, people person who can reach out into the community. We expect the right candidate to possess a Master of Divinity degree and to have pastoral experience and an understanding of growing a church.

FPCJ would be able to provide a total compensation package of about 45-50k, which would include anticipated contributions from the ARP. As the church grows this would be able to increase.

In summary, we are seeking a man who can effectively unpack the whole counsel of God, has a strong reformed theology and who is ready to see God do amazing things. We invite all to apply who are up for this opportunity to trust God and see Him work a miracle in Jasper and throughout the region.

About Our City and County

Jasper, population around 16,700, sits amid rolling hills and fields of corn, soybeans, and wheat in beautiful southern Indiana, just 1-1/2 hrs. from Wendell Berry country. It is the county seat of Dubois County which often leads the state in lowest unemployment of all 92 Indiana counties. It is the home of several large corporations such as Jasper Engines and Transmissions, MasterBrand Cabinets, Kimball International and Meyer Distributing. It has a great school system and a regional hospital. Jasper is the hub of a wheel with spokes to larger cities (Indianapolis-2 hours, Louisville-1 ½ hours and Evansville-1 hour).

Jasper enjoys the presence of Vincennes University Jasper Center, a 140 acre local campus of Vincennes University. Adjacent to the campus is the Jasper Arts Center, which consists of a 675 seat theater and visual art galleries.

Jasper is in its final stage of a 2 ½ year downtown revitalization project. Near downtown is the River Centre which offers apartments, restaurants, event spaces and other business spaces. Across the street is the new 3000 sq.ft. Thyen-Clark Cultural Centre which houses the Jasper Public Library and an arts wing featuring galleries and studios. A seasonal farmers market featuring locally grown products is set up at the Cultural Centre parking lot on Saturdays.

Jasper's population significantly increases in size during the day as people come to town to work and conduct business, shop in our big box Home Depot and Super Wal-Mart stores and small shops and dine in our varied restaurants. Another busy time in Jasper occurs the first week of August annually, as this German heritage city celebrates Strassenfest, a four-day German street festival.

Jasper has a well managed park system of several neighborhood parks, a new municipal pool and many walking and bicycling paths, one of which passes directly in front of our church. Jasper Parklands is a centrally located 75 acre park which has play areas, a 2 mile long paved walking path, exercise stations, a pavilion, ponds for fishing and a waterfall at a walking path bridge. A \$60 million dollar YMCA is expected to open in 2 years on property contiguous with the Jasper Parklands.

For additional insights into the community please visit the following websites:

jasperindiana.gov

jasperarts.org

explorejasperin.org

Job Description

1. Proclaiming the word of God consistent with the doctrinal standards of the reformed Presbyterian church, and teaching, guiding and equipping all members, grounded in the full counsel of God and the Gospel in all of life.
2. Providing biblical, spiritual, pastoral and visionary leadership within the framework of the church's overall vision, mission and purpose.
3. Promoting the spiritual health, growth and well-being of the congregation through preaching, congregational care, prayer, and administration of the sacraments.
4. Provide guidance, mentoring, and perspective to leaders in the church.
5. Plan and lead worship services.
6. Visit, comfort and pray with members who are home-bound,
7. Foster and develop relationship with all congregational members regardless of their position or circumstances.
8. Provide baptism and marriage preparation
9. Conduct and lead funeral services, and officiate at weddings.
10. Demonstrate a commitment to personal spiritual growth, prayer, and on-going development, including joining a small group or care group.
11. Commit to regular and open communication with elders and members.
12. Demonstrate self-reflection and self-evaluation.
13. Connect with neighboring organizations and ministries, and participate in community events as approved by the session.
14. Support the church in its outreach ministry.

Qualifications

We are looking for a man who loves God and the Gospel and can unpack it effectively to teach, preach and disciple.

We are looking for an out going man who loves people
We desire someone who can catch the vision for growing our church and implement a plan

Most importantly is a man who prioritizes daily time with Jesus in scripture and meditation, prayer and journalling.

We are seeking a man with a MDiv or completing it and pursues ongoing learning

We desire this man to have had some pastoral experience in a church