ERSKINE
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Serving Christ and His Church

The Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church Chair
of Preaching & Church Planting
Associate or Full Professor Rank
(Tenure Track)
Position Description

About Erskine College

Erskine College exists to equip students for lives of service and leadership, building Christ's Church, and influencing society for God's glory. Our mission is to glorify God as a Christian academic community where students integrate knowledge and faith, equipped to flourish as whole persons prepared for lives of service, leadership, and influence through the pursuit of undergraduate liberal arts, graduate, and seminary education.

Vision and Mission of Erskine Theological Seminary

Erskine Theological Seminary, rooted in a gracious Reformed theology, aspires to equip servant leaders to advance Christ's Kingdom. We are the theological graduate school of Erskine College and an agency of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARPC). Our mission is to **glorify God as a theological community where students embody the gospel of Jesus Christ, confess historic Christian orthodoxy, engage Reformed theology, value the Church, and grow as whole persons to serve as pastors and leaders who advance Christ's Kingdom.** We express this mission in seven cores values: 1) Gospel Centrality & Historic Christian Orthodoxy, 2) Biblical Worldview, 3) Gracious Reformed Theology, 4) the Priority of the Church, 5) Faithful Stewardship, 6) Academic Excellent with Pastoral Application, and 7) Whole-Person Formation.

Overview of the Position

Erskine Theological Seminary invites applications for The Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church Chair of Preaching & Church Planting. This position is a tenured-track faculty appointment at the rank of Associate or Full Professor.

The faculty position will start as early as July 1, 2027. The position is preferably located at the Seminary's location in Columbia, SC, but could also be located at the Seminary's other locations in Due West or Greenville, SC, or remotely located (in discussion with Erskine's senior administration). This position entails instructional responsibilities in preaching, church planting, and pastoral ministry, including teaching in-person, hybrid, and online classes. This position also includes continuing scholarship in the areas of preaching, church planting, and pastoral ministry.

Qualifications

- *Christian Profession*: The candidate will be a Christian who professes faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and endeavors to grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ.

- *Ecclesiastical Qualifications*:
  - The candidate will be an ordained minister in good standing in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARPC), or
  - An ordained minister in good standing in a denomination with which the ARPC has a fraternal relationship, provided that the candidate is willing to transfer his credentials into an ARPC presbytery within one year of his appointment at Erskine Theological Seminary.*
  - Qualified candidates from other ecclesial bodies who are personally aligned with the ARPC doctrinal standards (i.e., *Westminster Confession of Faith* & *Catechisms*) and who are willing to pursue transfer of their credentials into an ARPC presbytery may also apply.

- *Education*: The candidate must possess:
  - A Master of Divinity (MDiv).
  - An earned professional doctorate (e.g., D.Min.) or an earned research doctorate (e.g., Ph.D.) in a ministerial or theological discipline from an accredited institution.
  - A candidate who has attained the status of doctoral candidate [A.B.D.] by the time of application and who can provide a letter from his dissertation supervisor/director that he is on track to complete the degree requirements may be considered if the candidate is able to complete the doctoral degree by July 1, 2028.

- *Pastoral Experience*: The candidate must:
  - Ordinarily have more than ten years of full-time pastoral experience in local congregations.
  - Demonstrate superior preaching gifts.
  - Have substantial experience in church planting, with demonstrated fruitfulness as a church planter and/or as a church planting coach.

- *Academic Experience & Publications*: Exceptional candidates may:
  - Have experience teaching in Christian higher education institutions.
  - Have experience teaching online.
  - Be published in the areas of preaching, church planting, and/or pastoral ministry.

- *Personal Commitment*: The candidate will personally model and support Erskine Theological Seminary's vision, mission, and values. The candidate must personally affirm the following:

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*The ARPC has fraternal relations with the following Reformed denominations: The Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC), Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America (RPCNA), Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Canada, Iglesia Presbiteriana Asociada Reformada de México (IPAR) [Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Mexico], Canadian Reformed Churches, Korean-American Presbyterian Church (KAPC), Evangelical Presbyterian Church of England and Wales, and the Free Church of Scotland.

- Affirm adherence to Erskine College's Institutional Mission & Vision and Erskine Theological Seminary's Mission (see Appendix A).
- Affirm personal belief that "The Bible alone, being God-breathed, is the Word of God written, infallible in all that it teaches, and inerrant in the original manuscripts."
- Affirm adherence to Erskine's Statement of Faith and Biblical Distinctives (see Appendix B).
- Affirm adherence to Erskine's Philosophy of Christian Higher Education (which agrees with the same said position held by the ARPC).
- Affirm adherence to the ARPC's Position Statement on Human Sexuality (2019).
- Affirm the following question "Do you accept the doctrines of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, contained in the Westminster Confession of Faith and [Larger and Shorter] Catechisms, as founded on the Word of God and as the expression of your own faith, and do you resolve to adhere thereto?"

Responsibilities

- *Teaching*
  - A full-time teaching load is ordinarily 21 credits per academic year, but for an exceptional candidate a reduced teaching load while remaining in a concurrent pastoral call may be possible in discussion with Erskine's senior administration.
  - Teach a combination of in-person, hybrid, and online classes each academic year, as scheduled by the Dean of the Seminary.
  - Teach courses at all graduate degree levels offered at Erskine (i.e., master's, ThM, and DMin).

- *Scholarly Research*
  - Conduct scholarly research in disciplinary area.
  - Write scholarly articles, contributions to edited volumes, and monographs/books in disciplinary area, expected.
  - Write popular pieces, as interested.

- *Service*
  - Represent Erskine Theological Seminary to the wider Church through leadership and participation in conferences, events, and seminars on preaching and church planting.
  - Collaborate with the ARPC's Outreach North America (ONA) to support the presbyteries' work of church planting and church strengthening, including offering expertise and providing coaching support. Collaborate with the ARPC's World Witness (WW) to support the denomination's work of international church planting.
  - Lead the future D.Min. church planting concentration and cohorts of church planting students.
  - Fulfill the internal service requirements for a tenure-track faculty member, including serving on at least one faculty committee.
  - Offer pastoral and spiritual support to students and staff.

Salary

Competitive salary compared to similar-sized peer seminaries and theological schools; benefits include health, dental, vision, and 403(b) matching contribution.

Application Process
The search will continue until the position is filled, but **applications received by January 11, 2027, will receive priority consideration**. Interested candidates should complete the online application, which can be found here. The online application includes links to upload a letter of application (cover letter), a CV, and a short personal essay addressing the candidate's faith in Jesus Christ, how Christian faith informs the candidate's work as a scholar, and how the candidate would advance Erskine's mission.

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APPENDIX A

Erskine College Vision
Erskine College exists to equip students for lives of service and leadership, building Christ's Church, and influencing society for God's glory.

Erskine College Mission
Our mission is to glorify God as a Christian academic community where students integrate knowledge and faith, equipped to flourish as whole persons prepared for lives of service, leadership, and influence through the pursuit of undergraduate liberal arts, graduate, and seminary education.

Mission of Erskine Theological Seminary
Our mission is to glorify God as a theological community where students embody the gospel of Jesus Christ, confess historic Christian orthodoxy, engage Reformed theology, value the Church, and grow as whole persons to serve as pastors and leaders who advance Christ's Kingdom.

APPENDIX B

STATEMENT OF FAITH:
Erskine College and Theological Seminary adheres to an evangelical understanding of Christianity and affirms that the Bible is God's inspired Word and that an individual can become a Christian only by accepting Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. Erskine College and Theological Seminary faculty, staff, administration, and trustees affirm that:

1. The Bible alone, being God-breathed, is the Word of God Written, infallible in all that it teaches, and inerrant in the original manuscripts.
2. That there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
3. In the Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, in His Virgin Birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through the shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.

4. That for the salvation of lost and sinful man, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.
5. In the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.
6. In the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; that they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.
7. In the spiritual unity of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ.

BIBLICAL DISTINCTIVES

Marriage and Human Sexuality

We believe that the term “marriage” has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture (Gen. 2:18-25). We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other (1 Cor. 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4). We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, cohabitation, homosexual behavior, or use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God (Matt. 15:18-20; 1 Cor. 6:9-10).
We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ (Acts 3:19-21; Rom. 10:9-10; 1 Cor. 6:9-11).

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31). Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of Erskine.

Biological Sex
We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as either male or female, and that these two distinct, complementary sexes together reflect the image and nature of God (Gen. 1:26-27). Willful rejection of one’s biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

Sanctity of Life
We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His Image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value human life (Ps. 139).