

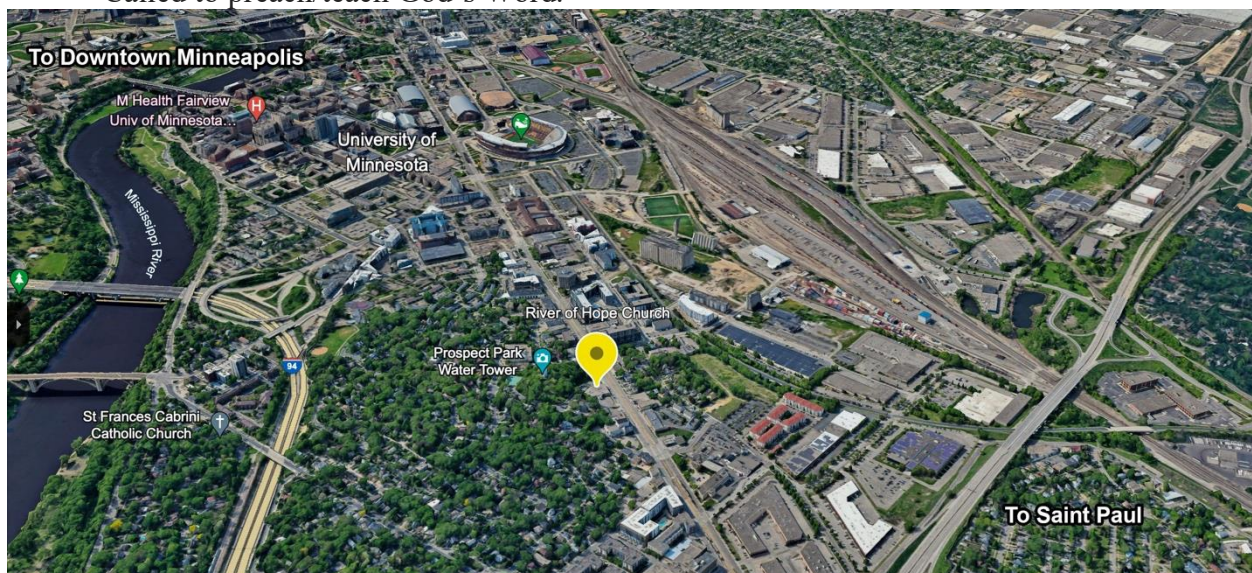


## OPPORTUNITY PROFILE PASTOR

### The Opportunity

River of Hope Church (ROH), in the heart of the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, is seeking a new pastor. This role is open to either a man or woman, who will humbly serve with the existing team of Elders and members to grow a Christian community by proclaiming the Gospel in word and deed. This is an ideal opportunity for a relational leader with the following characteristics:

- Loves people
- Desires to develop new ministry leaders
- Can engage with our ministry partners and the broader community
- Called to preach/teach God's Word.





## **The Community**

ROH Church is strategically located in Prospect Park, a socio-economically and ethnically diverse neighborhood proximate to the University of Minnesota. The neighborhood is an established community undergoing major growth from new residential and commercial construction in adjoining areas. New residents include students and families from around the world. Our neighborhood includes professional and academic families in single-family homes, apartments filled with students and city dwellers, and immigrants living in low-income housing.



## **The Church**

We are a diverse congregation of approximately 65 active members and others who join us in ministry. Some of us have served as missionaries in various nations and we are a strong mission-sending church. Members come from Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Some of us are students who are here for a time before moving on to jobs elsewhere. Others have been members for years and have seen the church body grow and change.

We pursue God's Kingdom according to how the Bible instructs us. We are a praying church, open to the gifts, and leadership, of the Holy Spirit. Our worship team, small groups, and volunteers actively support the activities for our congregation, surrounding communities and global missions. People also join us through online ministry and Outreach.



With a commitment to family fellowship, Sunday mornings include Christian education, a growing children’s ministry, and meals (free breakfast & lunch) for the congregation.

Our Staff includes the Senior Pastor, and four part-time staff: Worship Director, Communications Director, Children’s Director, and Building Manager.



We have been a faithful presence in our community since 1888, with a long-term outreach to American and international students. We were founded as a Presbyterian church and since 2016 have been members of, and follow the essential tenets and polity of, the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO); <https://eco-pres.org/constitution>. We are ecumenical in character as many of us come from a variety of Christian traditions or are new believers.

We have recently relocated the church building from our long-time home to newly renovated facilities located on burgeoning University Avenue. Our new location offers a greater presence in the community where population growth is occurring. There is ready access to the urban core between downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul, and convenient freeway access to other parts of



the metropolitan area. Our building is located on the Light Rail Transit (LRT), and upcoming Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). Our new facility is three times larger than our former building, free of any mortgage, and designed for ministry expansion.



## **Mission, Vision, and Values**

### **Our Mission:**

We are a multicultural and multigenerational church pursuing God's kingdom, hosting his presence through worship and prayer, discipling and equipping the next generation, and bringing hope to the campus, the city, and the nations.

### **Our Vision:**

We will be a church of transformation where closeness with Jesus restores our identities and destinies and builds us into a family that loves each other and the nations.

### **Our Values:**

- **Worship and Prayer:** Loving God with all that we are and seeking Him in prayer
- **Family:** Loving one another deeply
- **Mission and Witness:** Proclaiming the Good News to people everywhere
- **Discipleship:** Making disciples of the nations
- **Multicultural:** Reaching and serving people from all cultures
- **Unity:** Pursuing peace and becoming one with the Lord
- **Mercy and Justice:** Showing mercy to those in need and defending the helpless



## Ministry Partners

In carrying out our ministry, we are in active partnership with other Christian ministries in the University and the community. We share our new facilities and cooperate in programming with the following organizations:

- Covenant Life Church <https://www.covlifecities.com/>
- Truth and Freedom Church <https://www.truthandfreedomchurch.com/>
- Prepare Ministries <https://prepareministries.com/>
- Connexions International <https://cxiumn.org/>
- Hospitality Center <https://www.thehospitalitycenter.org/>
- Agape First Ministries <https://www.agapefirstministries.org/>
- We are also working in cooperation with Firebase Movement <https://firebasemovement.com/> and Anselm House <https://anselmhouse.org/> and host a monthly Twin Cities prayer fellowship <https://tcprayerroom.org/>





## **The Position**

As a church body, we seek unity in Christ in a shared leadership model recognizing that “Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors, and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.” (Ephesians 4:11-12)

We seek a Pastor who shares, with the elders and church members, the responsibilities of praying, leading, preaching, teaching, shepherding, evangelizing, and discipling. The Pastor is accountable to the Session and works with the other Elders to guide River of Hope Church.

We seek a servant leader who will develop new leaders; someone who commits to serving ROH for several years; and someone who loves working with university students in international and cross-cultural ministry.

We seek someone who is egalitarian on women in ministry, widely evangelical, and open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

At this time, the Pastor position is either full-time or part-time (20-40 hours) with benefits. Salary and benefits will be discussed during the interview process.

## **Responsibilities of Pastor** (dependent on hours per week)

- Build others up – helping them use their gifts (APEST)
- Work together and share responsibilities with other elders and trustees. Be a team player.
- Moderate elder and staff meetings
- Preach and teach God's Word and lead other elders in this area
- Administer the Sacraments with other elders who are commissioned as lay pastors
- Introduce people to Jesus, training disciples, and growing the church
- Encourage the staff and volunteer workers and seek ways to ensure the ministries of the church are flourishing
- Connect with other ministries in the city, especially our partner ministries
- Maintain contact with ECO through participation in Presbytery meetings

## **Character**

We know that no one is perfect, but we desire a pastor with the following characteristic”

- A Spirit-filled Believer
- Exemplifies the fruit of the Holy Spirit
- Is forgiving, loving, and bearing with others
- A person of prayer
- Strong communication skills who is empathetic and a good listener
- A humble person who has a parent's heart toward the people to whom they are ministering and is willing to admit mistakes and grow in faith as part of our community

## **Skills**

- A team player
- Team management and stewardship skills (in relationships, time, and finances).
- A passion for those who are lost
- A careful listener who is sensitive to those who have experienced trauma
- Open to questions and welcomes dialogue
- Able to connect with people cross-culturally
- A clear communicator in teaching, preaching, and conversation
- Able to disciple and encourage new believers

- A planner who looks ahead to see what the next steps should be for the church
- Has familiarity with university life and interest in serving university students

### **Qualifications**

- Strong Biblical education (MDiv preferred, or MA, BA, or BS from an accredited college, university, or seminary)
- Experience in preaching exegetically
- Some experience in pastoral leadership
- Proven ability to work with trustees and elders to set and manage budgets and work as a team player
- Open to being commissioned or ordained by the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO) <https://eco-pres.org/clp/>

### **Next steps**

If interested in this position, please submit a current resume, two letters of recommendation, and a brief statement of your faith journey and why you feel called to ministry in general and to River of Hope in particular. Please also send a link to one or two sermons. Background check is part of the process. Send documents to Sarah Zosel, [sarah.zosel1724@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.zosel1724@gmail.com)