

Seeking short- mid- or long-term volunteer pastors for international church in Bali, Indonesia

Job Description for BDIC Volunteer in Ministry (ViM)

Background

Bukit Doa International Church (BDIC) is both Christ-centered and Bible-based. We are a church without walls, open to all people regardless of race, culture, or background, affirming that we are all one in Christ. Our purpose is to create a cross-cultural, caring Christian community that will provide opportunities for worship, education, fellowship, and service enriched by Balinese culture and arts. Our focus of ministry is the English-speaking people living in south Bali with a special outreach to hotels and their guests.

In the early 1990s, the government granted neighboring plots of land in South Bali to institutions representing each of the five main religions of Indonesia (Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist, Catholic, and Christian faiths), for the purpose of building houses of worship side by side, in order to display the policy of religious tolerance in Indonesia. Today this place is known as Puja Mandala, which loosely translates as “arena of worship.” The Protestant Christian Church in Bali (Gereja Kristen Protestan di Bali – GKPB) was asked to develop the plot of land designated for the Christian church, and so Bukit Doa (Prayer Hill) Church was born.

The English-speaking congregation (Bukit Doa International Church – BDIC) held its first worship service in January 1999 with four in attendance. Today we average 40 adults and 10 children on any given Sunday, though the Indonesian (language) congregation, with whom we share the building, is much larger with multiple services on Sunday and activities throughout the week. BDIC and its sister church, Kuta International Christian Church (KICC) are two of the 79 congregations of the GKPB. The GKPB is governed by a synod, and the moderator is the elected bishop.

The demographics of BDIC vary widely and change frequently simply due to the transient nature of both the expat and Indonesian population living and working in Bali (or transiting through Bali). We consider BDIC an “international” fellowship or church because it is not simply expats but truly internationals. Many of us are westerners living and working on Bali, but most of us are Indonesians from other islands who prefer to attend an English language worship service. We are most certainly a unique blend and many of us come and go frequently.

The variety of national and ethnic backgrounds is also reflected in the variety of spiritual background represented by the members of BDIC. As is the case in many international churches around the world, most agree to leave their denominational affiliation at the door. However, our theological differences continue to play a part in the forming of our corporate identity. (We understand that BDIC is a multi-denominational congregation and there may be a variety of theological or “religious / denominational” traditions or persuasions represented among the members of BDIC on any given Sunday. We believe that there are core beliefs and doctrines that we adhere to according to Scripture and the teachings of the

church that we would call evangelical and which are derived from an informed and comprehensive study of the whole of scripture. We recognize that there are issues for which scripture does not paint us a crystal clear picture and so interpretation would be handled appropriately.)

Bali in general is a unique place in that it attracts people who are seeking something or perhaps running from something in life. Many expats living in Bali who are spiritually inclined have been greatly influenced by eastern religions, such as Buddhism and Hinduism. There is indeed a great opportunity to minister to many of these people who are seeking, running or floundering in life. BDIC also has a vision to be involved in the expat community to weave relationships and to minister to the international community in Bali.

Position of Pastoral Ministry at BDIC

We are seeking a pastor who will be sensitive to the on-going leadership role of the BDIC council. That is to say, a short-term minister should be one who is flexible, able to adjust to and build on the existing structure, roles and lay/member ministries already in place. The reason for this is that BDIC will continue in ministry after the end of a short-term pastoral commitment, and so we hope to maintain a continuity of leadership. So we are seeking spiritual leadership and mentoring in the framework of an enabling and collaborative style of leadership rather than authoritarian. Thus a short-term pastor will be seen as part of the leadership, ready to support, encourage, build up and give godly counsel where needed. The person selected should be adaptable and willing to fit in with a wide variety of cultures - both church cultures and ethnic cultures. The candidate should have a style that is accepting and humble. The candidate should be prepared to make adjustments and to see issues from different points of view.

In addition, the candidate should recognize that the ministry of BDIC is within the context of The Protestant Christian Church in Bali (GKPB) and be aware of GKPB church policy in regard to official acts of worship and ministry. Please remember that though the worship is conducted in English, most are NOT native English speakers, and therefore it is imperative that sermons be clear, to the point, Bible-centered, and life-centered. Avoid theological vocabulary. Never use idioms or trendy language that would only be understood in your home country. Preaching should be expository, bible-based, and no more than 20 minutes. It should speak to the needs of the listeners; show a godly way forward; challenge the listeners; encourage Christian commitment; be Spirit-led. We follow a liturgical style of worship, usually following the lectionary.

Length of service: **at least 4 months**

Immediate need: **October 2018**

Qualifications for Pastoral Candidates:

1. Pastoral gifting/calling and experience.
2. Experience in cross-cultural or multi-ethnic ministry.
3. Significant pastoral and preaching experience
4. Seminary graduate and legitimate church credentials.
5. Affirms authority of the Word in belief, life and practice.

6. Familiarity with and respect for a variety of church traditions
7. Comfortable with women in ministry leadership

Expectations:

1. Fill weekly pulpit ministry
2. Provide pastoral care and encourage the formation of structures for pastoral care
3. Offer opportunities for teaching and spiritual formation of BDIC members
4. With the leadership team, plan the Sunday morning worship services.
5. Encourage and equip members to reach out to the community and to develop ministries within the fellowship.
6. Support the benevolence projects of BDIC and GKPB
7. Conduct weddings and funerals as required and able
8. Attend BDIC counsel meetings and serve under the authority of the GKPB denomination

Financial Considerations:

Ideally, candidates seeking this position would have financial support from a recognized church or mission board (we can help to make this connection if needed), as BDIC is not currently able to fully support a pastor and family. BDIC is able to provide housing, and a car is available for use.

For more information and to request an application, please contact:

bukitdoabali@gmail.com