Opportunity Profile

PASTOR Head of Staff

PRAIRIE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE CHURCH OF THE

Come live the invitation to follow Christ!

9145 Eden Prairie Road Eden Prairie, MN 55347

www.prairiecommunitychurch.net psc@prairiecommunitychurch.net

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For over 165 years, Prairie Community Church (PCC) has proclaimed the gospel of Jesus Christ. We began as a fellowship reaching those who were transforming the frontier prairie into farmland settlements. In 1855 PCC's first worship service was held in a log schoolhouse, and we have since called two other buildings home. We moved into our current location in 1998 and our ministry has thrived amidst Eden Prairie's change from pastoral farm community to bustling metro suburb. We have become good at adaptive evolution while remaining ever faithful to the unchanging Word of God.

Our roots are reformed in theology and Presbyterian in polity. We are grateful for our heritage as Eden Prairie Presbyterian Church (EPPC). But because we are a church that draws people from more than one city and whose faith backgrounds are quite diverse, we adopted the "Doing Business As" name of Prairie Community Church of the Twin Cities, or Prairie Community Church for short. In July of 2014, we were accepted into ECO: A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians.

Click here to see a historical timeline. As of December 2020, PCC remains debt-free.



The vision of PCC is to live the new life in Christ wherever we go, share our story along the way, and invite others to "Come and See!" (John 1:37-39)

OUR MISSION

To invite people into a biblical community to become transformed followers of Jesus Christ.

OUR VALUES

We aim for the spiritual formation of people who are Christ-centered, Bible-based, dependent on God, prayerful, joyful and relational.

CONNECT: As we gather individuals into our PCC church family, we help build transformational relationships with God, the church family, and those we encounter every day.

GROW: We strive to grow in community with others as we learn more about our God and sharing our faith through Bible Study, small group experience, and disciples making disciples groups.

SERVE: Serving is the ultimate form of love; PCC provides many opportunities to share the love of Christ to a world in need of a Savior through our God-given gifts, talents and time.



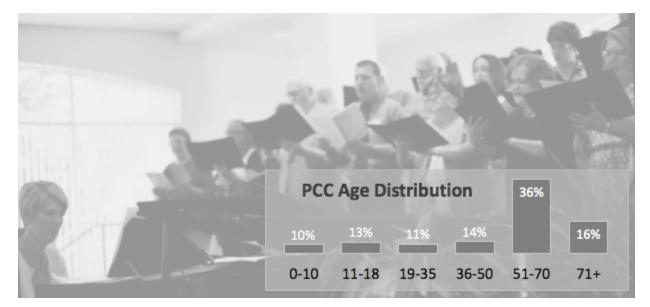
LOVING COMMUNITY

PCC is blessed with a diverse congregation of believers. Some members have been attending almost their whole lives while others just a few years. A loving community with relationships that span multiple generations make up our welcoming, prayerful and Christ-centered congregation.





Attending worship at PCC is an uplifting and Christ-centered experience. We enjoy singing both modern worship songs as well as timeless hymns. We also incorporate prayer, scripture readings, and messages of life application from God's word in our services. Worship is the fullest expression of who we are as Christians and reminds us of our purpose in the world.



Our program year worship service is held at 10:15 am with a coffee fellowship time following the service. Children, grades 6 and under, join their families for worship and singing and then are dismissed for Kids' Own Worship. Education classes for all ages begin at 9:00 am.

COVID-19 has not stopped PCC from worshiping, learning, and supporting our community and missions. Parking lot worship, Zoom meetings, upgrades to our audio and visual equipment to livestream our Sunday services and social distancing with masks for in-person are among the changes the church has made to adapt to this new way of life. *(photo was taken during COVID-19 - social distancing)*





Bible Studies and Small Groups: We have Men's, Women's and Young Adult Bible Studies, as well as small groups where people grow in their relationship to God and each other through biblical and topical studies. We continue to meet even in COVID times through virtual meetings or in person with masks.

Flourishing Disciples: Flourishing Disciples is a new initiative in the life of PCC. We offer the opportunity for individualized spiritual growth by gathering within groups of 3 or 4 people who also want to grow in their faith. We call it "Disciples making Disciples." The goal is that as we continue to grow spiritually, we can invite others to grow with us.

Fellowship: Our church family enjoys sharing in many different fellowship opportunities from coffee time after the services to picnics, bake offs, bonfires, retreats, Friday Night Live events and any excuse to have a potluck meal together. We are a loving community at PCC and it's the fantastic fellowship that keeps us coming home.









(Bible Study, Coffee Fellowship, Senior Luncheon, ZOOM Bible Study)



STAFF: We currently have seven full and part-time staff positions that include: Pastor/Head of Staff, Director of Worship and Communications, Director of Youth Ministries, Director of Children and Families (currently open), Office and Finance Manager, Administrative Assistant and Nursery Coordinator.

MINISTRY TEAMS: The Ministry Teams carry out much of the work of PCC. Team members use their talents to minister to children, youth, and adults through the church's education, outreach, and small group programs and to reach out to the elderly and shut-ins. Teams work to oversee worship planning and the many mission and service opportunities for the church family. Other teams coordinate the practical ministry of maintaining the church building and grounds, managing church finances and facilitating fellowship events. The ministry teams of PCC exist to minister to the people of PCC and to provide a means in which to grow in faith, love, and community with Christ and each other.

ADULT - YOUTH - CHILDREN - MUSIC - PRAYER BUILDING/GROUNDS - CAREGIVERS - FINANCE - MISSION



CHURCH POLITY

Our church follows the Presbyterian form of church government. The Session has the responsibility of ensuring the spiritual nurture of the congregation, and bears the financial responsibility for the corporation. The Senior Pastor is the Moderator of the Session, and there is a Clerk of Session. There are 9 Elders elected by the congregation. These elders rotate in 3 person classes that serve for 3 years.

CHILDREN

The mission of our Children's Ministry is to invite kids into a fun, biblical community that fosters supportive friendships, discovery, and life application of biblical truth. Our leaders are committed to helping families in their efforts to lay a spiritual foundation that will lead their children into a dynamic relationship with God through His Son, Jesus Christ. We do this through learning together, playing together and serving together.







But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ 2 Peter 3:18 Youth Ministry programs at Prairie Community Church encompass students in 7th-12th grade. By gathering each week, students and leaders have a chance to connect, grow together in community, and grow closer to God by digging into His Word.

Events: Every once in a while, we'll gather for organized events in addition to our weekly gatherings. These could include retreats, movie nights, amusement parks, camping trips, or BBQs. These events are a great chance to get together in fellowship and provide opportunities for students to invite their friends to come and have a blast.



Retreats: An essential part of experiencing God is to gather together to get away! Students' lives are hectic. Retreating allows us a chance to reconnect with our Creator in a place set apart from our everyday experience.

Missions: Throughout the year, there are several service projects, including volunteering, serving and loving others through local ministries like Operation Christmas Child, 363 Ministries, World Vision and Feed My Starving Children. In addition to local service projects, students also have the opportunity to serve in other states and countries – past mission trip locations include Denver, Alabama, Montana, New York, and Mexico!



We are blessed to partner with extraordinary missions and missionaries, both locally and across the globe. Each Mission we support has a PCC member that serves as a compassionate and prayerful liaison. PCC tithes at least 10% of the budget to support our mission partner's ability to be the "the hands and feet" of Christ. For more information on our missions, click <u>HERE</u>. See our missions listed below.

Athletes in Action - Christmas with Dignity - Consumed Ministries - Feed My Starving Children Hospitality House Youth Development - Make All Things New - New Life Family Services Outpost Ministries - PROP Food Shelf - TreeHouse Ministries - AMOR Ministries Compassion International - Donna Evan Southeast Asia - Jonas and Beth Menezes Porto Velho, Brazil Rev. Bishop Deo Mwamba International Christian Ministries -Habtom and Heather Kebede Abbis Abada, Ethiopia - Youth Mission Trips - Mexico Mission Trip -International Association for Refugees











Eden Prairie is our address but we also pull from many surrounding communities such as: Bloomington, Chanhassen, Chaska, Edina, Hopkins, Minnetonka, Minneapolis, New Prague, Prior Lake, Savage, Shakopee, Victoria.

The City of Eden Prairie, Minn. has been recognized as a great place to work and raise a family for many years and is consistently ranked among MONEY magazine's "Best Places to Live."

Eden Prairie is located in close proximity to the Minneapolis–St. Paul metro area providing a perfect balance of small town feel and big city amenities.

The City received its name in the mid-1800s when it was considered a 'garden spot' in the newly developed Minnesota territory. Established in 1858, Eden Prairie remained a sleepy pastoral village until the mid-1900s when the additions of Flying Cloud Airport and Highway 494 put the City on the map, bringing thousands of homes and businesses to the area. Since then, the population of Eden Prairie has grown to more than 62,000 and the number of businesses has multiplied to more than 2,800.

Eden Prairie provides an ideal environment for living well. In addition to attractive residential neighborhoods and affordable housing options, the City boasts nearly 10,000 acres of land designated for parks and open spaces, miles of scenic views and breathtaking lakes and beaches.

With award-winning restaurants, a super-regional shopping center, top-ranked schools and a myriad of entertainment and lifestyle options, it's no wonder 95% of residents rate the quality of life in Eden Prairie above average in the City's biennial Quality of Life Survey.

The City of Eden Prairie is a welcoming community with a thriving economy, and is truly a great place to Live, Work and Dream!

The search committee conducted a survey of the congregation and one of the open ended questions was "Where do you envision PCC in 5-7 years?" What we received were the heartfelt prayers of our people.

"We recognize our strengths are in our Loving Relationships and in our beliefs that Scripture is God Breathed and Jesus is The Way. As we look to the future with a new pastor we pray these attributes of the church will not be compromised. Yet we also acknowledge our membership has gone down over the years for many reasons - differing beliefs, denomination changes, pastor changes, job moves, death, busyness of life just to name a few. We recognize that in this changing culture and increasing distractions, we need to learn how to attract and retain younger generations. We also desire to be more known and relevant in and around our communities. Maturing in our faith and moving from spectators to players are areas we believe we can grow as a church body. We seek a Pastor who is willing to Shepherd this flock into alignment with God's Will for this church."

"My prayer would be for a pastor who first and foremost values and stands by God's word, even when it is challenging. Is prayerful, seeks and depends on God, exhibits fruit of the Spirit, is dynamic in preaching God's word, seeks to grow members in faith and exudes the love of Christ in everyday living."

"I pray that we would continue growing in our love for the word, walking in obedience to it and reaching out as a multi-generational and diverse congregation to the wider community around us; specifically doing our best to reach out to the lost around us with the love and truth of Christ. I pray that we would be uncompromising and hold fast to God's word and be humble and Spirit-filled followers of Jesus."

"I hope God will continue to grow our church in understanding his grace, be a light to the local community, be a solid cross-generational and cross-cultural bridge."

"Hopefully known in the community as the church it can't live without."

"I am confident God has a plan for our church. We have been faithful and obedient in our call. I pray that our will for a larger congregation with young families, youth programs and filled pews is part of God's plan for us. We want to and need to be more impactful in our community and surrounding areas. We just need to get some traction in this area."

"Hoping for a pastor with humility and grace will be respecting all generations and all spiritual gifts of members. This pastor would be a servant leader that people are drawn to by vulnerable sharing of the gospel of brokenness, that only Jesus heals."

"A people who are thriving in their relationship with the Lord and with others, such that they can't hold in their excitement. We will be passionate about reaching out in communities; about looking for ways to serve. People from all over will come to know PCC as a beacon of hope, love and grace in Christ."

Position Description

The Pastor of Prairie Community Church of the Twin Cities (PCC) will serve the congregation by giving spiritual, pastoral, stewardship, and administrative leadership to the congregation and enhance their relationships with God and each other.

Personal Characteristics

Strengths	Leadership Qualities	Character Traits
Preaching Teaching Shepherd	Inspiring & Challenging Preacher Visionary Experience Reaching Young People & Achieving Diversity	Prayerful and Wise Relational Strong Biblical Foundation

Responsibilities

- Be a visionary thinker, capable of shepherding us into the future that fits God's plan.
- As we grow, focus on reaching a more diverse membership in addition to young people (people in the community, people of color, young and middle-aged families, singles, etc.).
- Perform the duties of a Minister of Word and Sacrament.
- Be an inspiring teacher and motivational preacher whose spiritual sermons are relatable to everyday life and build the spiritual growth of the congregation and community.
- Counsel couples contemplating marriage and others as needed.
- Visit the hospitalized, members in crisis, the homebound, and prospective members.
- Supervise the church staff and foster a positive work environment.
- Empower laypersons from church leadership, develop strategic plans, and participate in missions.
- Moderate Session and Congregational Meetings; to guide PCC in ECO polity.
- Conduct New Member classes, Officer Training, and participate in the annual Session/Staff retreat.
- Participate in continuing education, local ecumenical, community, Presbytery and Synod activities.

Qualifications

Personal

- Natural ability to build relationships within the staff and congregation.
- Passion for people not currently attending any church and ability to connect with them.
- Inspires others to pursue holiness and obedience to Scripture.
- Experienced leader who leads by example, delegates authority and empowers staff.
- High emotional awareness and gifted in healthy conflict resolution.

Educational

- The Pastor is a seminary graduate.
- Four years experience as a Senior/Associate pastor of a church of equal/larger size.
- Competent using technology to preach, teach, and reach others.
- Adheres to the ECO essential tenets (read them here).

Interested in this position? Click <u>HERE</u> to apply.