

Abbeysdale Christian Fellowship Co-Pastor Profile

ACF Vision Statement:

We are a family gathered in the name of Jesus, led by the Spirit, desiring God. We will make room in our lives and in our calendars to engage in discipleship and hospitality. From the richness of our life together, rooted in Christ, we will make known the good news of Jesus to the lost and the broken.

General Attributes required:

- Bible college/seminary education
- Previous pastor experience (cross-cultural an asset)
- Experience in community outreach
- Aligned with Anabaptist theology and congregational leadership style
- Able to preach in a concise, dynamic, and understandable way (i.e. to a congregation that is multicultural, multigenerational, educated/blue collar)
- Solid biblically-based preaching/teaching/leadership, able to teach precept upon precept
- Enjoys getting to know people
- Able to encourage participation, unity, and fellowship in the congregation
- Demonstrates Eph 4:2, Col 3:12 leadership
- Able to discern ministry/outreach potential
- Flexible with co-pastorship and compliments existing co-pastor (see below)

We are blessed to have a strongly relational co-pastor, who is a young family man who has been with us for 10 years. He offers a unifying presence, enthusiastic personality, is a good listener, can execute ideas, thinks on his feet, has strong creativity, is socially and community-minded, loves on people, is a good organizer and event planner, and has a pioneering spirit. He considers working with the youth a joy. We desire to find a co-pastor to compliment these strengths.

Complimentary attributes (in relation to existing co-pastor) desired:

- Open to sharing preaching schedule, potentially taking majority share
- Strong Bible teacher
- Able to draw out practical application of teaching
- Calm and consistent personality/style
- Willing and able to support church and work events

The Co-Pastor is expected to perform/have the following as part of their work at ACF:

- Preparing sermons, preaching, and teaching
- Hospital and emergency visitation
- Providing counsel to leadership when church discipline is needed
- Leading pastoral prayer during the service, one-on-one prayer, and corporate prayer meetings
- Conducting weddings, baptisms, baby dedications, and funerals

- Counselling (Christian Life)
- Contributing to an overall vision for the church
- Dealing with people who might cause divisions
- Involvement in mission to the local community
- Involvement in the EM Conference
- Congregational home visitation
- Young life ministry
- Occasional leading of worship services (i.e announcements, scripture reading, prayer, benediction)
- Occasional administration
- Cultivate their own spiritual, social and intellectual life through Bible study, prayer, retreats, worship, reading, friendships, seminars, and other upgrading.

Perceived Strengths of ACF:

- Sound theology (ACF and at conference level)
- Missions and outreach beyond ACF (Community Cupboard, English as an Additional Language)
- Friendly and Welcoming
- Care, Encouragement, Integrity, Honor privacy of congregants
- Opportunities for service for anyone
- Worship and Prayer
- Fellowship/Close Friendships/Family atmosphere
- Programs (children and youth)
- Unity/Adaptable
- Culturally aware and Inclusive of minorities
- Committed leadership and core members

Perceived Weaknesses of ACF:

- Lack of Opportunities for group spiritual development (e.g. demographically-based small groups, prayer, fellowship, deeper relationship building, practical classes)
- Lack of enough committed volunteers (e.g. hospital and home visitation, female youth leaders, care/support for overworked leadership)
- Lack of demographic/program diversity (e.g. young adults, young families, 18-40/40-60 age group)
- Spiritual growth teaching (e.g. deeper Christian living, understanding gifting, Holy Spirit, correction relative to social injustices, daily Christian living)
- Lack of variety of worship services (e.g. styles, special themed services)
- Lack of evangelism
- Lack of integration and involvement of all cultures in serving (Spanish congregants)

Areas Where Individual Congregants Feel They Need Spiritual Growth:

- Intentionally focussed growth and discipline/surrender
- Intentional witnessing/evangelism
- Applying Scripture to everyday life
- Deeper knowledge of Bible
- Becoming a stronger disciple
- Deeper understanding of Holy Spirit
- Prayer

Potential future areas of ministry for ACF:

- Family ministry, VBS, Clubs
- College/university age