



American Protestant Church of The Hague
"APCH"

**Call for an ASSOCIATE PASTOR of
Discipleship, Formation and Mission**

General Background

For over 50 years the American Protestant Church of the Hague (APCH) has been a "home away from home" for both expatriate and resident English-speaking Christians residing in the communities of the greater The Hague area. Our 300 regularly attending congregants from over 45 countries, represent a richness of both nationality and denominational diversity.

APCH Mission:

"A home for the global community, growing in the love of Jesus."

APCH Values:

APCH is a community of Christ followers that is committed to being one family, keeping Christ at the center of all things, living out our callings, practicing generosity, each committing to "Sunday +2" (worship, grow, serve) and embracing change.

Role Description

The Associate Pastor of Discipleship, Formation and Mission works alongside the Lead Pastor/Head of Staff to carry out APCH's mission by actively developing and nurturing specific ministry areas. The Associate Pastor's primary and supporting areas of responsibility include:

Primary Responsibilities

1. Discipleship and Spiritual Formation

The Associate Pastor plays a primary role in leading, developing and nurturing the church's discipleship ministries that are charged with teaching, encouraging and fostering Christian maturity and discipleship.

The Associate Pastor will work to refresh and/or recast an overall vision and clear implementation path for discipleship and spiritual formation at APCH.

The Associate Pastor oversees, provides leadership to, develops and works closely with the four Ministry Team Leaders (MTL) responsible for discipleship and spiritual formation in all phases of life, from children to adults, specifically,

- Adult Formation
- Young Adult Discipleship
- Youth Discipleship
- Children's Discipleship



2. Missional Living

APCH seeks to grow in becoming a missional church that engages all of the congregation in the activity that God has for them in the world (put differently, "we're all in full time ministry"). The Associate Pastor will work with the Missional Living MTL to guide and support the team's priorities "to equip and to serve, both locally and abroad to carry out the Great Commission of Jesus Christ." This includes reimagining innovative ways for APCH to engage, partner and serve locally (being missional) as well as actively engaging with ministry partners abroad (missions).

Supporting Responsibilities

3. Pastoral Care

In partnership with the Lead Pastor and the Congregational Care MTL, the Associate Pastor engages in the pastor's craft of congregational care, including home and hospital visitations, helping to support those in need (whether spiritually, physically or financially), and assisting in managing conflict or crisis situations that may arise.

4. Preaching and Teaching

Along with the Assistant Pastors and other guest preachers, the Associate Pastor provides pulpit support, preaching 6-8 times over the course of the calendar year (the Lead Pastor preaches three Sundays per month, on average). Additionally, the Associate Pastor may regularly lead aspects of the Sunday worship service as well as lead or co-lead the administration of the Sacraments (communion and baptism) to the congregation.

5. Worship Planning, Communications and Digital Ministries

The Associate Pastor may join the staff in planning Sunday Worship services to include music selection, liturgy, and audio visual complements. Strengths and experience in the knowledge of liturgy and global worship is desirable. Also, the Associate Pastor will provide periodic support to the Communications MT and, ideally, will be energized by the opportunity to guide, support and enrich APCH's digital capabilities.

Qualifications

APCH seeks an individual with a clear call to be a Pastor in an international, inter-generational and interdenominational context. The candidate must be mature in the Christian faith, have solid ministerial preparedness and credentials and be vibrant, energetic and emotionally and spiritually healthy.

Ministerial Qualifications

- Minimum of four years of relevant Christian ministry experience
- Seminary degree from an accredited institution rooted in the Protestant tradition
- Ordination or ordination candidacy in a Protestant denomination preferred, but not essential
- Significant competence in spiritual formation and related practices



- Fully embrace the APCH Mission, Values, Covenant and Statement on Challenging and Divisive Issues (apch.nl/explore-our-beliefs)
- Demonstrable living faith, grounded in Christ and the core tenants of the Reformation and the Christian church
- Proven ability to work in an international, cross-cultural context
- Native or near-native English-speaking fluency with evidence of excellent communication and writing skills
- "Digital Native." From newsletter communications and the church app to worship planning software and live-streaming, nearly every aspect of church ministry is affected and enhanced by digital technology. The Associate Pastor should have a demonstrated comfort with utilizing and adapting to all things media and technology.

Personal Characteristics and Qualifications

- Mature in the Christian faith, demonstrating strong character and integrity
- Mature professionally, recognizing the gifts and the imperfections of the church; energized by the call of renewal to God's people and church
- A servant leader who is curious, open to learning and seeks to grow in the craft of pastoring Christ's church
- Reflects Christ's heart

Application Process

Qualified candidates are encouraged to carefully review the Associate Pastor role description for genuine "giftedness and fit" and to prayerfully consider a potential call to serve at APCH.

Applicants are kindly requested to submit the following three items:

- 1. Cover letter**
- 2. Detailed personal CV/resume**
- 3. Short written response, not to exceed 250 words, to the following:**
"Describe your spiritual gifts and how these have been specifically used in various areas of ministry to further the mission of the local church."

Please send a single PDF file containing these three items to: callcommittee@apch.nl

The application submission window will close on **Sunday, March 31, 2024 at 23:59 CET**.