

Kitchener Pastoral Associate

Status: 30 hours a week

Working Days: Typically Sunday – Thursday; a spirit of flexibility is expected

About The Meeting House

We feel God is calling us into a new vision: *Introducing spiritually curious people to the Jesus-centred life through a movement of Jesus-centred churches.* What does that mean? Through our Meeting House sites and expressions across Southern Ontario and new Jesus Collective network, our desire is to honour God by proclaiming the irreligious message of Jesus and fostering loving communities of fully committed Christ-followers in a way that makes sense for that local context. We are all about Jesus first, which we believe results in our values of peace, simplicity, community, and mission. We are reimagining what it would look like to be a church that is fully activated for mission and engaging the spiritually curious around us. We are committed to evangelism and kingdom growth within our existing footprint and uniting with other Jesus-centred churches to amplify our Kingdom impact beyond our footprint in ways we have not imagined before. We need people who share excitement about this spirit-led vision and want to contribute their gifts, skills, expertise, and heart to this transformation! Check out our website for more details: www.themeetinghouse.com

Role

The Kitchener Pastoral Associate provides key leadership for the Home Churches and leaders in Kitchener. Discipleship of all people, reaching the spiritually curious, and integrating people into community are the passion points for the Pastoral Associate. Leading and equipping Home Church and ministry leaders as they disciple our community of people are the means. With support from the cluster and Regional Pastor, this person also provides engaging leadership and communicates The Meeting House vision well to continually invite people into community and help them serve our local neighbourhoods. Finding creative online and in person ways of engaging people into community and inviting spiritually curious people into conversation is a key aspect of this role.

*While right now the Sunday morning experience is online, we do anticipate getting back to meeting in person in large gatherings; at that point being the steward for Sunday mornings is a key part of this role.

What does the Pastoral Associate do?

- Model what it means to be a disciple of Jesus
- Cultivate and foster a culture of discipleship
- Equip and empower Home Church leaders to authentically live out their own faith by discipling the those in their Home Churches through one-on-one and regular leaders' gatherings
- Working collaboratively, develop meaningful and creative Sunday morning and non-Sunday gatherings that are inviting for spiritually curious people
- In collaboration with local leaders, ensure that effective pastoral care is provided
- Execute key administration related to effective delivery of key initiatives

Practically, how does the Pastoral Associate spend his/her time?

- Participate in team and one-on-one meetings with Home Church Elders, focused first on discipleship and then on ministry delivery and execution
- With brainstorming and encouragement from the cluster, help execute the vision, strategies, and plans for the overall health and growth of Newmarket region

- In collaboration with local ministry leaders, ensure strong online and person gatherings that encourage community, worship, and discipleship
- Regular visits to Home Churches (most meet in the evening)
- Equip elders for pastoral care
- Provide triage in pastoral care situations that require additional support
- Pray for individuals, the church, and the region
- Train and equip future leaders
- Regularly lead events to integrate newcomers to the church, help others take their next step in community, and help spiritually curious people explore questions of faith
- Ensure the site administration and tasks happen well
- Participate in regular meetings with other Meeting House pastors and staff to learn about what's happening, share ideas, encourage each other, and pray together
- Provide input, insight, and feedback on The Meeting House plans and programs
- Other responsibilities as needed

Requirements

- **A maker of disciples** - You invest in people and they catch that vision and go on to disciple others
- **A heart for seekers and the unchurched** - You care about seeing others come to know Jesus. You love Jesus more than religion and can talk without using Christian lingo.
- **Spiritual maturity** - You convey a sense of spiritual wisdom, regardless of your age. People come to you for insight into problems and challenges. You are a person of depth.
- **Leadership gravitas** - You can speak comfortably and naturally in front of large and small groups. Your own personality comes through. People look to you as a leader.
- **Relational warmth** - People find you approachable and easy to talk to. You are warm and engaging, and clearly care for people.
- **Energy** - Whether you're an introvert or extrovert, being around you energizes people. You can cast a vision that gets people excited and motivated.
- **Self-starter** - You have an ability to get things done. You've got a system in place to make sure things don't fall through the cracks. You follow through on things you say you'll do. You respond promptly to emails and phone calls.
- **Alignment with the core values and beliefs** of The Meeting House and our denomination, BIC Canada (canadianbic.ca). Among other things, we are a peace church, believe in simplicity and fully affirm women in leadership (we allow men to lead too!). You must become credentialed with the BIC.
- **Sense of humour** - We take Jesus and His message very seriously, but not ourselves!

Relationships

Reports to: Regional Leadership Pastor

What We Offer

You will lead and work alongside amazing people in our community who love Jesus and are learning to put into practice what it means to follow Him. You will join a staff team who genuinely care for each other, love what they do and strive to work to the best of their abilities. None of us are superstars; we just try to authentically follow Jesus together. We are a fast-paced organization and are willing to try new things and experiment if we think something else will be more effective. We often fail first before finding what works best.



We offer a competitive benefits and pension plan, encourage and support professional development and continued learning, and provide the technological tools required to do the job, including a laptop and smartphone.

The Pastoral Associate's office is flexible! They can work from home or from the local coffee shop – wherever makes sense for meetings, planning and getting administrative tasks done.

The Meeting House is committed to providing accommodations for people with disabilities. If you require an accommodation, we will work with you to meet your needs.