



Connection Pastor

Summary:

The Connection Pastor will connect with people. He is responsible for creating thriving connections among people as a dynamic expression of St. John's mission of "Connecting, Caring, and Sharing in Christ." As such, he is developing and leading other leaders in building an increasing network of relationships for the sake of "Discipleship in as Many Places as Possible."

Effectiveness is valued over efficiency among St. John's leadership. Collaboration, trust, and team are key elements to effectiveness. Therefore, the Connection Pastor, while leading Connection's Ministry, will also engage in many other ministry activities based upon need, his passion, and availability.

Vocational Expectations:

1. Personal, Family, and Community

The Connection Pastor purposefully cares for his body, mind, and soul trusting the truth: "It's all His." He is a strong, devoted man of God whose life of repentance is evident among others. He celebrates forgiveness shared at the Lord's Table and through other expressions of the Word. He is a man of prayer, an apt Bible student, and always learning through growth in wisdom and stature in favor with God and man.

The pastor joyfully cares for his family, humbled to sacrificially lead on behalf of His Heavenly Father. He serves in the spirit of Christ and loves his family with and through the Lord's love.

The pastor unpretentiously cares for his community, grateful for the Lord's creation. He serves his neighbor, protects and provides as one sent to represent the Lord's loving-dominion for West Bend and the surrounding communities.

2. Team Leadership

The Connection Pastor brings godly leadership to the following "Connection Ministries."

- Connections Ministry Task Force
- Life Groups
- Personal, Congregational, and Community Missions

As team leader, the pastor will provide theological, organizational, and inspirational direction for the leaders and by extension their team members. He respectfully embraces the important gifts of trust, responsibility, and authority within an empowering policy governing structure.

3. Team Participant

The pastor joins with fellow team members and serves within the leadership of other team leaders in various areas of ministry. He has opportunity to preach, baptize, marry, serve as liturgist, teach all ages, visit the sick and shut-in, provide crisis intervention, engage in missions and retreats, and serves in other capacities as needed and is available. He experiences the Lord's care within a healthy, collaborative team.

Necessary Qualities:

1. **Spiritual Maturity** – vibrant relationship with Jesus, character reflecting the fruit of the Spirit and life consistent with the biblical qualifications for pastors
2. **Team Player** – able to connect relationally with staff, ministry leaders, and church members with an attitude of responsiveness and flexibility
3. **Highly Relational**— enjoys relationships with all people, unbelievers and believers
4. **Strong Work Ethic** – motivation and commitment, organization and execution skills in implementing ideas to bring them to reality, ability to prioritize and manage time to accomplish goals while also protecting health in work/personal and family life
5. **Strong Communication Skills** – including speaking, writing and listening
6. **Optimism** – a positive, forward-thinking, flexible, thankful and ‘can do’ attitude
7. **Proven Experience Building Church Communities**—creates a culture of relational connections
8. **Transformable & Transforming**—Being willing to commit to the theology, common speak, and culture of St. John’s as a servant and a leader

Organizational Structure:

1. Status: Exempt
2. Team Member: Pastoral, Management, and Leadership
3. Supervisor: Senior Pastor

Our Work Together:

The Lord’s work in and through His family called St. John’s is real, relevant, and relational. The Connection Pastor is blessed to serve within a family with over 160 years of ministry within West Bend and the surrounding communities. The church family demographic mirrors the community demographics. While having virtually the same number of baptized members in each decade (birth to 9, 10-19, etc.), the average age of St. John’s members is 39 years old, down from 64 years old in 2004.

Committed to “Discipleship in as Many Places as Possible,” St. John’s family is a covenantal congregation. The Connection Pastor, along with staff, leaders, and confirmed members, experiences the protection of covenants drawn from the Scriptures.

The Connection Pastor is highly relational, thoughtful, strategic, and devotional. He is committed to a collaborative approach to serving the Lord, committed to the health of team ministry. Loving the Lord and all people, he longs to give and receive, knowing that “for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8: 28)

The Connection Pastor rejoices in the many ministry opportunities of St. John’s and her partners to include St. John’s Early Childhood Center, Elementary and Middle School, St. John’s Foundation, Living Word Lutheran High School, Concordia University Wisconsin, Concordia Seminary, LC-MS South Wisconsin District, Milwaukee Rescue, Bethania Indian Orphanages, Lutheran Hour Ministries, and Camp Luther. He prays for and serves within these ministries as able, giving thanks for our work together.