



Pastoral Profile

The following is a general overview of expectations for the future pastor of Union Christian Church.

Specific Responsibilities:

- Preaching weekly
- Teaching Sunday school weekly (as well as training/equipping others to do so)
- Assisting in some of the “day to day” errands/needs of the Church (the majority of which will be done by the elders and deacons)
- Spiritually develop Church leadership through meetings, discipling, and more

General Responsibilities:

Lead:

- Monitor and assist developing the different ministry programs of the Church (especially delegating, coaching, and overseeing) which include music, liturgy, children’s Church, nursery, youth group, singles, men’s breakfast, among others
- Be the contact/point person for other organizations/ministries that use the Church facilities

Feed:

- Develop/coordinate/implement teaching that has a firm foundation in God’s word, with a focus on the overarching Gospel message.
- The foundation of Gospel will influence how we approach the realities of life, especially in a cross-cultural environment.

Care:

- Counsel and connect with Church attenders
- Seek connecting with other English speakers and the larger English speaking community

Qualifications:

- Vibrant personal faith in Jesus Christ
- Love for God’s Word
- Proven gift/heart for nurturing/shepherding God’s flock
- Graduate ministry degree (M.Div. or similar)
- Agreement with the UCC statement of faith
- Intercultural experience
- Shared family calling/commitment
- Spanish language ability or desire for learning



Church Overview:

Union Christian Church of Tegucigalpa is an international, interdenominational, English-speaking fellowship of Christian believers. Founded in the 1960s, our current motto is “equipping the saints for the work of ministry” (based on Ephesians 4:12) because a majority of our congregation works in professions in which they are directly serving others: missionaries, children’s home workers, bilingual school teachers/administrators, or people involved in diplomatic service. While much of the congregation is from the United States of America, we also have congregants from Asia, Africa, Europe and other countries in the Americas and bilingual Hondurans. Besides Union Church, there are just two or three other English-speaking fellowships in Tegucigalpa, a city of 1.2 million people. On any given Sunday, an average of 80-100 people attend Union, many driving long distances. Union Christian Church is located in a residential neighborhood surrounded by the modern, vibrant business and government district. Many congregants can only come into Tegucigalpa on Sundays, which makes the time of corporate worship and fellowship that much more important. In that sense, the Church sometimes has the feel of a small town Church in the middle of a large capital city.

There are certain challenges in caring for this particular community of believers that require Union’s leadership to be flexible in their approach to Church life and ministry, adaptable to changing circumstances and creative in the execution of pastoral care. One of those challenges is the stress that some congregants bear by living cross-culturally or by working/living in impoverished and sometimes dangerous environments. Added to that is the transient nature of our community, with a certain segment rotating in and out every two to three years, which can sometimes create a barrier to community-building. Despite those challenges, Union has continued to play an important role in the spiritual growth of the English-speaking community in this city for many decades.

What defines Union Christian Church:

Union Christian Church is an evangelical Church strongly committed to the Bible as the only infallible rule of faith and practice, and to the systematic preaching, teaching and study of the Bible. Our congregation comes from the whole spectrum of Christian doctrine and tradition, but the foundation of deep, Christocentric preaching and teaching is what unites us as one body, as does a hunger/desire for Biblical teaching/learning/training. Other aspects of corporate worship including music, prayer, administration of sacraments, giving, service and Christian fellowship, are all practiced at Union as integral parts of our worship as well.

There is a deep sense of God’s calling in daily life/work, as well as a larger world-view, which combine to form a stronger passion for Kingdom change in the greater community. The educational level of the Church body as a whole, and white collar employment is also higher than in an average US Church. While at different levels, the body also shares a bond of cross cultural experience, a sense of expatriation, and a greater sense of adventure/risk taking.

The Union Church is governed by a board of elders, consisting of no less than three men that meet the biblical qualifications for elders as described in the third chapter of First Timothy and the first chapter of Titus. The pastor will be an elder in equal standing with the other members of the elders’ board, leading as a “first among equals.” The Church also has a deacon board to assist in service to the congregation and to others in need and to aid in weekly logistics.

The Union Church’s worship style can be considered “blended.” Musically, you will hear a mix of contemporary songs and traditional hymns, thoughtfully planned by volunteers from the congregation who sign up on a varied monthly schedule. Communion is traditionally administered on the first Sunday of every month, and any believer is welcome to participate.

Missions/outreach at Union often happens via the organizations in which our congregants work. In the past, this has included supporting a local deaf church, providing food and basic supplies to impoverished families, and outreach to kids on the streets or in children’s homes.

Union at a glance:

- Average Attendance: 80-100 (may be lower in summer months and during holidays)
- In the last twenty years we have had three different pastors
- Worship and Sunday school Schedule:
 - o Sunday School for all ages 9:00 – 9:50 a.m.
 - o Worship Service 10:00-11:30



- Current church staff positions:
 - Senior Pastor (full time)

Union's Faith Statement:

We believe that the Triune God created the world and everything in it. As the crowning work of His creation he fashioned both man and woman in His image and placed them in the world to rule and tend it. But the man and woman rejected God's role for them and chose their own way resulting in sin, death, and separation from God and each other.

We believe that in His love and mercy God initiated a plan to restore humanity to right relationship to Himself and to put the world to rights. This plan unfolded first through God's special covenant relationship with the nation of Israel as recorded in the Old Testament.

We believe that through all those centuries the work and words of God were pointing forward to the fulfillment of this plan in Jesus Christ. In Jesus Christ God himself became human to show us in life how to be truly faithful to God's plan for humanity, in death to atone for human sin, and in resurrection to overcome humanity's greatest enemy—death.

We believe that before returning to his Father in heaven, Christ left us His Holy Spirit to begin the work of resurrection in us and to empower us to live out the image of God in the world.

We believe that Christ will one day return to finish the work of restoring God's creation by defeating sin and the Devil and renewing the earth broken by sin.

We believe that until then the church exists to equip and encourage believers to live out the image of Christ through regular worship, through nourishing relationships with other believers, through purposeful discipling in the image of Christ, and through proclamation of Christ to the world in word and in deed.

We believe that Scriptures of the Old and New Testament unerringly testify to God's revelation of himself in Jesus Christ and His purposes for humanity and, therefore, are the only authoritative source for Christian life and practice.