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Pastoral Internship Profile

Church Profile

Grace Covenant Baptist Church is an historic Protestant congregation subscribing to the 1853 New Hampshire Baptist Confession of Faith and friendly to the Second London Baptist Confession of 1689. We are committed to Christ-centered, expository, evangelistic preaching of all Scripture and a biblical-theological, salvation-historical hermeneutic grounded in the New Testament's use of the OT. We are broadly Reformed in our soteriology; Congregational, elder-led, and deacon-served in our polity; Complementarian in our view of men's and women's roles in the home and church; and we are committed to weekly corporate prayer as a congregation. In corporate worship, we read God's word, pray God's word, preach God's word, sing God's word (historic hymns and modern songs), and see the word (in the ordinance of baptism and the Lord's Supper). We think that the pastor is a practitioner of the marks of the true church: the right preaching of God's Word and the right administration of the ordinances.

Internship Profile

The purpose of the pastoral internship at GCBC is to both model and inculcate a practice of pastoral ministry and applied ecclesiology so that the student emerges from the internship trained and equipped with an ability not only to articulate but to apply and execute a biblical vision for pastoral preaching, prayer, and godly leadership in the context of a local congregation. The pastoral internship at GCBC is designed to model for the student a biblical approach to pastoral ministry in the context of an applied biblical ecclesiology. The prospective intern will be expected to shadow the senior pastor week to week so that he can be mentored and disciplined by the pastor through observation, conversation, reading, study, discussion, written reflection, practical experience, and meaningful feedback for the intern regarding his beginning steps in public preaching, leadership, discipling, teaching, and prayer.

Topics for study, discussion, reflection, and conversation will include all matters pertaining to applied pastoral ministry and applied ecclesiology in a local church setting. Interns will observe, learn, and practice the biblical and practical centrality of expository evangelistic preaching of the Bible in a Christ-exalting way. They will develop an understanding of the practical roles and relationships of elders, deacons, and members in the context of a congregational polity. They will see, learn, and develop an articulated vision for the practicalities of baptism, the Lord's Supper, local church membership, the importance and dynamics of individual discipling and loving church discipline, and the crucial skills of giving and receiving godly encouragement and constructive criticism, along with the skills of personal discipleship, biblical hospitality, and leadership by example in the context of living the Christian life together in committed community with a local church body. These goals will be accomplished through a mix of reading, written practical reflection, dedicated personal conversation with the pastor week to week, congregational relationships, practical experience in public ministry and leadership, and specific feedback from the pastor on that experience. Post-undergrad and summer-residential internships are both available. To respond, please e-mail Pastor Paul Alexander at gracecovinfo@gmail.com.