

## **About Sun Prairie Wisconsin**

The community of Sun Prairie, a northeast suburb of Madison, is home to over 34,000 people. It is part of the fastest growing metropolitan area in Wisconsin. It has a vibrant social and cultural mix with new schools, an aquatic center, its own community TV channel, an annual corn fest/fair week, bike trails and all the businesses you would expect in a community our size. Additionally, the community has a strong volunteer spirit.

## **About Living Water Church:**

### Our history:

Living Water Church was founded in 1999 as a mission church for the Evangelical Lutheran Churches of America (ELCA). Living Water Church departed from the ELCA in 2010 to become affiliated with the Alliance of Renewal Churches (ARC) and Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC). Living Water Church is a non-denominational church and our governance model is a hybrid of elder-led and congregation-led.

Originally holding its first services in a local Catholic church in the evenings, LWC relocated to a storefront in a business section of Sun Prairie in 2001. Our church was built and opened for worship in 2005, with the added blessing of extra land for future expansion. There are currently two services on Sunday morning with an average attendance of 150 people.

We strive to maintain a Gospel-centered ministry to the three major “streams” of Christianity: Traditional-Sacramental, Evangelical and Charismatic. We endeavor to remember that Jesus is at the center and each “stream” is not complete without the other for together we make up the one true body of Christ.

To learn even more about LWC, please visit [www.livingwaterflows.com](http://www.livingwaterflows.com).

### Our Vision and Purpose:

Our next pastor will help us to fulfill the destiny into which we are walking. We are to be the light in our community by reflecting the love and graciousness of our God. We will welcome many into His Kingdom, disciple them well and release them into the world full of His spirit and grace.

We are a Bible-based, prayer-guided, spirit-driven church with a contemporary worship style and a passion to be relevant, relational and life changing.

Our motto is “Relationships Are Everything”. Our mission is “Building Relationships That Change Lives”. Our purpose is to see Christians live on the cutting edge with God, pushing back the darkness so that the least, the last and the lost are touched by the love of God and that the people of God live into their destiny as world changers.

**LIVING WATER CHURCH**  
**Position Description**  
**June 2022**

**Position Title:** Senior Pastor  
**Responsible To:** Board of Elders

**Summary Statement:** The Senior Pastor of Living Water Church serves as the senior leader and shepherd of the congregation, providing spiritual guidance and instruction to help the congregation grow to a deeper relationship with God and to demonstrate His love to our city and region with the purpose of fulfilling the Great Commission in Matthew 28. The Senior Pastor is responsible for the ongoing development of ministry and support staff and serves as the visionary champion of the congregation's vision, mission and values.

**Responsibilities:**

1. Prayer, Spiritual and Visioning Ministry
  - Spend time with Elder Board and congregation in personal prayer and congregational sponsored events
  - Work with leadership and congregation to maintain core values of LWC
  - Lead the church to the vision God has for the future, working together with God, the congregation, Elders, Trustees and ministry leaders. Maintain a focus on and adherence to God's vision
  - Train and disciple LWC members to represent Christ in the community and workplaces
  
2. Oversee church life and pastoral acts (Shepherding)
  - Participate as a member of the Elder Board
  - Regularly attend the meetings of the Board of Trustees and Ministry Board to give visionary guidance
  - Oversee preparation and execution of worship services
  - Oversee church ministries
    - Assist ministry leaders with goal setting and problem solving

- Assist in the development of ministry programs
- Officiate or delegate the facilitation of classes and activities associated with various sacramental ministries of the congregation (e.g. baptisms, dedications, communion, weddings, funerals, etc.)
- Assist in congregational communication through publication and personal contact
- Serve as the chief representative of the congregation and its ministries to visitors and other interested families and individuals
- Provide a variety of counseling services; crisis, grief, pre-marital, marital issues, to the congregation and refer to external providers as needed
- Visit and offer communion as necessary to members in need; members who are sick, hospitalized, in Hospice, elderly shut-ins, or ensure they are visited regularly
- Ensure follow-up contacts with members and regular attendees who have recently become inactive
- Perform other duties as agreed upon by the Board of Elders

### 3. Sermon preparation

- Serve as key preacher and teacher of the Gospel for the LWC congregation
- Create Biblically-based preaching and teaching messages
- Develop individual messages and sermon series based upon relevant spiritual needs of the congregation or follow the lectionaries to help facilitate balanced preaching

### 4. Oversee staff

- Mentor and disciple staff
- Ensure supervision of all paid staff
- Conduct job reviews for new staff at three and six months and thereafter once a year

- Address staff performance issues in a timely fashion
5. Participate in ongoing continuing education and study
  6. Network with other external ministries for kingdom growth, such as Sun Prairie Area Ministries (SPAM), Youth With A Mission (YWAM), MP3 local pastors group, LCMC, ARC
  7. Maintain regular office hours as determined by the Board of Elders

**Required Education, Knowledge, Skills and Giftings:**

- Master of Divinity degree or a variety of education and experience that shows God's call and preparation for the work of ministry as pastor
- Compassion for the least, the last and the lost who do not have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior
- Seek the fullness of God through the Father, Son and Holy Spirit growing in the gifts of the Spirit (I Cor. 12) and the fruits of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23)
- A desire to see the Great Commission fulfilled
- Ability to recognize conflict and implement resolution among congregation and staff in a timely fashion
- Recognizing the need of prayer to fulfill the ministry of the Church as well as the value of Christians fulfilling their call in the community and workplace
- Leadership and administrative skills to accomplish responsibilities previously listed

**Other Requirements:**

- Recognize Living Water Church is a Spirit-led, prayer-driven church, shepherded by a Senior Pastor who has final authority over the life and activities of this congregation in conjunction with the Board of Elders
- Ability to constructively carry the spiritual and emotional burdens of leading a growing, diverse congregation

- Spiritually healthy, prayerfully focused and growing in personal discipleship
- Maintain confidentiality pertaining to sensitive matters involving the church and any of its members
- Expect to be on call seven days a week, at any hour of the day. If for any reason the Senior Pastor cannot be available, it will be the responsibility of the Senior Pastor and Elders to have an alternate plan in place for 24/7 coverage

## Living Water Church Sr. Pastor Essay Questions

***Please provide the answers to the following questions and submit with your resume.***

1. Do you agree with everything in our Statement of Faith below? Is there anything missing from our Statement of Faith that you would like changed or added?
2. Explain your interpretation of 1 Corinthians 12. Do you consider the gifts of the Spirit (such as prophecy, healing, speaking in tongues) to be relevant and available to Christians today?
3. What is your position on predestination and your view of "free will?"
4. What do you believe is required in order for one to go to heaven?
5. How should a pastor and their church relate to other churches locally and (if denominational) to the larger body? Do you feel comfortable cooperating with other denominations? Do you draw any lines?
6. What is your view on current issues such as same sex marriage, transgenderism and abortion?
7. What do you feel are the most important qualities in a pastor, and how do you reflect these qualities in your work?
8. How do you go about maintaining your relationship with Christ? What are your personal disciplines for spending time in the Word and in prayer? How do you get spiritually refreshed?
9. How does the Holy Spirit impact your life?
10. Give us some examples of ways you have become involved in your community.
11. Living Water Church was built on prayer, and we believe in the power of prayer. Can you give us two to three examples of how you've witnessed the power of prayer in your life or in your ministry?
12. Sun Prairie is a racially and economically diverse city. The population is relatively

young, and the median income is higher than the average in Wisconsin. Of those who regularly attend Living Water Church, many are Caucasian and either empty nesters or retired. We would like to attract more young families, increase our racial diversity and reach those who have never been churched. What are your thoughts on how Living Water could attract and keep new members given the demographics of the community?

13. Describe your previous experience in determining long-range goals and other types of planning activities. What experience do you have leading a church through the process of updating vision statements, mission statements, etc. in an efficient and successful manner?

14. What is the most enjoyable part of your current ministry position?

15. What do you consider the essential ministries of a church and how would you prioritize them?

### **LWC Statement of Faith:**

Because we love God and all people, we value:

- An intimate personal relationship with God our Father and Creator, whose image we bear.
- An unconditional surrender to the Lordship of Jesus Christ who alone is the Savior of all Mankind.
- A radical dependence on the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit today in every believer and the church body.
- The Bible as God's word – absolutely dependable, relational, and relevant in equipping all people for life.
- Prayer for its power to bring us into God's presence and to change realities.
- Sharing the source of our hope and joy with others.
- God's healing power in our world today.
- Serving and giving as the highest forms of witness and work.
- Inspiring and joyful worship that engages the heart, mind, and spirit.
- Relationships as the most important facet of human existence.

- Pursuing a deeper daily walk with God through prayer, worship, study of His Word, service to others, and growing relationships with other believers.
- The grace of God, freely given- the only way to be saved.
- Unity as the true state of the body of Christ, striving to keep ourselves one in the Spirit and binding ourselves together in peace.
- A balanced approach to our faith, worshipping with equal awe the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- The Sacrament of Baptism as a voluntary act of submission to the will of God representing our Death, Burial, and Resurrection in Jesus Christ.
- The Sacrament of Holy Communion, where the Real Presence of Christ is present in, with, and under the bread and drink.