

the meeting house

a church for people who aren't into church

Lead Pastor (various sites in Ontario)

Status: Full time

Working Days: Varies

Context

The Meeting House is a church for people who aren't into church. Through our network of locations throughout southern Ontario, we seek to proclaim the irreligious message of Jesus and invite people into loving communities where they can live out that message.

Each of our sites host weekend services that simulcast the teaching portion of the services held at our Oakville Production Site while the rest of the experience is led locally. Connected to each site is a network of Home Churches that serve as the primary means of fostering discipleship and community. The Cross-Regional Staff provides cross-regional leadership to all aspects of The Meeting House with a goal of ensuring all sites and Home Churches offer a common, high quality experience.

Role

The role of the Lead Pastor is to provide leadership and oversight for a specific region within The Meeting House, ensuring alignment of the Site (leaders and community) and its goals to the overall purpose, mission and strategy of The Meeting House. Working primarily through the Home Church network, the Lead Pastor seeks to foster loving communities of fully committed Christ-followers. The Lead Pastor is responsible to help everyone in the region take their next step towards full participation in community, and to mobilize people to achieve the mission & purpose of The Meeting House.

Requirements

- Fully aligned with the message, mission and ministry strategy of The Meeting House
- Spiritual maturity with a passion for reaching seekers with the message of Jesus
- Someone with experience as and comfortable with being an overall leader, in particular experience as a ministry or pastoral leader in a congregational or similar setting.
- Must demonstrate a track record of caring for and developing people. A developer of leaders.
- Someone who can integrate Biblical thought and teaching into the lives of people, so some formal Biblical and theological training and knowledge essential. Additional post-secondary education also preferred.
- Able to obtain ministerial credentials with the Brethren in Christ Church and embrace the core values of the denomination (www.bic-church.org).
- Participation in and a current commitment to Home Church (smaller group/community). Someone committed to the concept that spiritual formation must include involvement in spiritual community (Home Church).
- A proven leader and manager of teams and people. A person with a track record of mobilizing, motivating and leading people.
- Be able to work within a team environment, maintaining positive relationships and open communication with all team members.
- Maintain a whole life commitment to The Meeting House's core commitments, purpose, mission and overall ethos.
- Skilled and experienced as a communicator (verbal and written), comfortable with providing up-front communication.

- Have a passion for seeing people get connected with a living active faith in Christ, regardless of their spiritual background.
- Be able to adapt to change and lead others through change.
- Be able to handle complex conflict situations and problem solving while maintaining a positive relational stance.
- Carry a valid Ontario driver's license and be able to travel throughout the region as an essential component of the role.

Responsibilities

- **Point Leadership for the Site** - Serve as the primary **mobilizer, coordinator, platform greeter**, vision communicator and carrier of the "DNA" of The Meeting House at the Site.
 - Ensure that the programming elements necessary to the Weekend Service are in place and function well each Sunday (under direction of Cross Regional Staff and in partnership with Site directors and teams).
 - Equip and encourage Site directors and volunteers, in partnership with Cross Regional Staff. Assist directors to recruit, train and place volunteers in ministries.

- **Community Development through overseeing the following areas:**

Home Church

- Support & encourage Home Church leaders through regular visits and contacts.
- Encourage Home Churches to grow in the key areas of Belonging (Community), Growing (Discipleship), & Loving (Outreach).
- Foster relationships with Home Church members through regular group visits
- Identify & develop future leaders – leadership training and development.
- Encourage & facilitate group multiplication – strategic thinking and planning for growth across the region.

Pastoral Care

- Baptisms, Baby Dedications, Weddings, Funerals
- Care & counseling
- Crisis support
- Conflict resolution

Integration & Next Steps

- Welcome & follow-up with newcomers
- Facilitate people taking next steps towards full participation in community, including:
 - Being baptized
 - Joining a Home Church
 - Volunteering
 - Giving
- Facilitate people taking next steps in their spiritual growth.
- Help to lead First Steps Lunches and Next Step Courses (teaching, leading, etc).

Compassion

- Partner with local agencies—especially Meeting House Partners—providing volunteer support, promotion, & finances
- Mobilize Home Churches in local compassion efforts

Community Life

- Foster a sense of shared mission & purpose within the region
- Provide opportunities for the community to gather through "mid-level" events
- Serve as a visible & accessible leadership presence at Weekend Service & other community gatherings
- Act as a point of first contact for those in the region with questions, opportunities, or needs

- **Alignment of the Site with the broad church family**
 - Ensure all volunteer and staff directors and home church coaches attend and participate in Cross Regional planning and training meetings and are fully aligned with the Cross Regional Staff leadership and our common vision, mission, strategies and approaches.
- **Community Relationships** - Foster a spirit of bridge building and cooperation exists relative to local rental facility staff, other local churches, organizations, and civic leaders in the region.

Note: This position is not responsible: 1) For setting vision or direction for the Site independent of the broader church family but to communicate and implement the vision established by our church family leadership; 2) For developing new strategies or approaches unique to the Site but to participate in the development of shared strategies and approaches within the Management Team context; 3) For the performance of the Cross Regional Staff but to provide consistent feedback, advocacy for the Site needs, and support to these peer staff within the Management Team context.

This is not an exhaustive list of responsibilities.