

# Park Community Church

## Pastoral Residency Information

### Overview

The Park Community Church Pastoral Residency is a 10-month (September to June), part-time program designed to prepare men for pastoral ministry in an urban context.

This residency is not an internship. It is an apprenticeship-driven program for individuals who are already discerning a call to pastoral ministry and are seeking intentional preparation and experience through real ministry leadership, mentorship, and contextualized urban training.

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### Program Structure

- **Duration:** September – June (10 months)
- **Time Commitment:** 20–30 hours per week
- **Format:** Part-time

Each resident serves within a local Park church while also participating in Park-wide training and development.

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### How the Residency Works

Each resident applies for and is placed in a local Park church, where they become meaningfully invested in that congregation's ministry. Residents will serve approximately 20–30 hours per week (depending on the Church), contributing to the life and work of the church while being shaped and trained for urban pastoral ministry.

Alongside this hands-on experience, residents will participate in a Park-wide resident cohort that gathers bi-weekly for shared training and development. These cohort gatherings include teaching from Park pastors and ministry leaders, preaching labs, spiritual formation, and time for discussion and reflection.

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### Core Components



### **Pastoral Apprenticeship**

Residents are placed under the direct supervision of a pastor and meet regularly for mentorship, feedback, and formation. This relationship is central to the program.

### **Ministry Leadership**

Residents are expected to lead in a defined area of ministry (not observe). This includes planning, execution, and developing others.

### **Preaching Development**

Residents will have multiple opportunities to preach (a minimum of four times) with structured feedback, training, and coaching.

### **Cohort Training**

All residents will participate in bi-weekly cohort gatherings with Park pastors and leaders for:

- Teaching and pastoral development
- Preaching labs
- Prayer and spiritual formation
- Peer learning and community

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## **Who Should Apply**

This residency is designed for individuals who:

- Are 21 years of age or older
- Are currently enrolled in or have completed theological or ministry training (seminary preferred)
- Have a clear sense of calling to pastoral ministry
- Are already actively serving in a local church
- Align with Park Community Church's theological convictions

This program is not designed for those who are exploring ministry for the first time, but for those seeking preparation for vocational pastoral leadership.

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## **Expectations & Evaluations**



Residents should expect a meaningful level of responsibility and accountability throughout the program. The residency is designed to stretch participants through real ministry demands, consistent feedback, and intentional development.

Residents will be evaluated in three primary areas: **character and spiritual maturity, preaching and communication, and leadership and ministry execution.** Residents receive both mid-year and final evaluations, providing clear insight into their growth and readiness for future ministry.

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## Compensation

The residency is a part-time commitment of approximately 20–30 hours per week (depending on the church). While the program is structured to be manageable alongside other responsibilities, it requires a high level of engagement, ownership, and consistency.

*\*\*Please Note: Residents are compensated as 1099 contractors. This means that residents will be responsible for paying their own taxes (more information provided in the interview and on-boarding process)*

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## Application Process

Candidates will complete a [written application](#) and participate in a two-step interview process, including both a local church interview and a Park-wide interview. Final placement is determined in partnership with a local Park church, where the resident will serve throughout the program.

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## What This Prepares You For

By the end of the residency, participants should be prepared to step into meaningful ministry leadership roles, whether within Park Community Church or in other ministry contexts. The program is intended to develop pastors who are theologically grounded, pastorally mature, and equipped to serve in the realities of urban ministry.

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## Is This Residency Right for You?

This residency is designed for those who are eager, driven, and capable of taking ownership of their work. If you're someone who thrives when given the freedom to innovate, bring ideas to life, and lead initiatives from start to finish, this program could be the perfect fit.

### **You're a Self-Starter**

You don't need to be micromanaged to get things done. If you can spot opportunities, take initiative, and run with your ideas, you'll excel here. This is a space for those who are motivated by their own drive and vision, and who are able to set and achieve goals independently.

### **You're Creative and Resourceful**

Ministry often requires flexibility, especially when budgets are tight or resources are limited. You need to be someone who can think outside the box, make things happen with little to no budget, and find innovative ways to bring your ideas to life. Whether you have financial resources or not, your ability to adapt, hustle, and make the most of what you have will be key to your success in this role.

### **You're Wanting To Grow**

Pastoral ministry is a lifelong journey of growth and transformation, and this residency is specifically designed to help you grow in pastoral ministry. That means you need to come in with a posture of humility, recognizing that there's always more to learn. You should be open to feedback, constructive criticism, and opportunities to address blind spots you might not even be aware of yet.

### **You cannot Do Anything Else**

Charles Spurgeon once said that if you can do anything else besides ministry, you should—because full-time ministry should be the thing you can't walk away from. If you've worked in other fields, had other jobs, and still feel an irresistible call to full-time ministry, you'll likely thrive here. If you can see yourself pursuing another career, try that first; this residency probably isn't the right next step for you.