



ASSOCIATE MINISTER

ASSOCIATE MINISTER (CHURCH PLANTING RESIDENCY)

This is a new role at Orange Evangelical Church. It would suit a man who is a new graduate or recent graduate. They would be committed to reaching Australia for Christ through church planting. The position is split into two areas:

- a. OEC Associate Minister: Serve across OEC as part of the mission, vision and values of OEC, with a particular focus on engaging newcomers and the local Orange Community
- b. Church Planting Residency: Trained at OEC in preparation to be sent as a church planter.

The associate minister will have excellent people skills, an ability to oversee large ministry systems, skills in expositional preaching and the ability to launch new initiatives. They will undertake training in planting, preaching, leadership and evangelism at OEC.

ORANGE EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Mission

We believe that Jesus gave our church its purpose when he commanded his disciples to go and make disciples. OEC's mission statement is: 'Making Disciples of Jesus — God's people taking God's message with God's help to Orange and beyond'. Every ministry that we undertake is directed toward the purpose of helping people to believe in and follow Jesus Christ.

Values

The values expressed below are a practical application of the [OEC Statement of Belief](#)

We are people gathered by Jesus Christ and united by His Spirit. Jesus is Lord of all and therefore everything we do is subject to His authority and dependent on His power. Our desire is to see people in Orange submit to Jesus' Lordship.

The Bible, God's word, proclaimed by us and applied by His Spirit is unashamedly at the centre of every OEC church gathering and ministry. We speak His truth in love, depending on God in prayer to change and grow us to be more like His Son.

The love of Christ compels us to go in His strength with His Gospel to seek and save the lost and make disciples. That is, to nurture and grow those He saves to maturity, so that old and young, married and single would become the people God created them to be, doing the good works He prepared for them to do.

God's grace compels us to live thankful and joyful lives of service with a generosity of spirit that reflects His incredible generosity to us.

Our plans are not an end in themselves but are undertaken in our desire to be faithful fellow workers with God in the ministry He has given us to do here in Orange and beyond. We are committed to gathering together weekly so as to spur one-another on to love and good deeds. We do so looking past the present to that day when a multitude beyond number gather around the Lord in heaven.



Our prayer is that God will use us to add many to that number from the city of Orange, and that God will use us to encourage fruitful Gospel growth in OEC, Orange and beyond.

History and future challenges

OEC commenced meeting on the 17th September 1995 ministering to approximately 90 people. OEC was begun by local people as an independent church committed to the Bible as its foundation for what we believe and how we live. OEC’s history can be thought of in three stages:

Stage 1—establishing | 1995 - 2005

OEC had a vision for growth, and expanded to three congregations by 1999

Stage 2—building | 2005 - 2022

OEC expanded further to four congregations with multiple ministries currently reaching approximately 800 people. OEC opened its Ministry Centre in May 2022 to support its ministries.

Stage 3—transition to future ways of fulfilling our mission | from 2022

From 2022 OEC will transition into a new phase after it moves into its new ministry centre and different opportunities to do Gospel ministry open up.

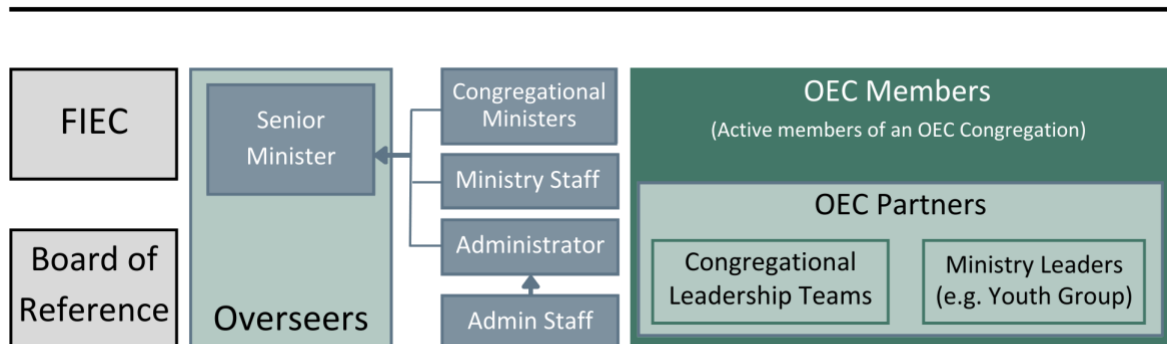
Fellowship

OEC is as an independent church which has developed strong links with other Christian organisations. OEC is a member of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches. We support and work with Western Plains Christian Convention; AFES (Australian Fellowship of Evangelical students); MTS (Ministry Training Strategy) and numerous mission organisations including CMS and Compassion.

Organisation structure

OEC is structured as follows:

GOD





Orange Evangelical Church (OEC) Incorporated has been established under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW) to run the affairs of Orange Evangelical Church. OEC's constitution can be found [here](#).

The senior minister leads the paid ministry and administrative staff. Paid ministry staff, which includes Ministers of congregations, work under the direction of the Senior Minister and assist him in leading and teaching the church in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs and Statement of Purpose.

OEC members are those who attend weekly meetings, a good number of these are Partners of the Association. The Partners of the Association vote to make decisions of the Association, including to employ all paid ministry staff and to elect Overseers.

The Board of Reference is available to advise the church and is made up of Christians known for their maturity of faith and Christian character, and who have demonstrated, in their own context, a commitment to pursuing similar ministry goals and priorities in their ministry to those of OEC.

THE ROLE

Key responsibilities

- Preach regularly across all OEC congregations and local evangelical churches
- Support and grow the discipleship of Church @ 9 members
- Train and equip the volunteer leaders across OEC
- Lead, sustain and grow a focus area across OEC (e.g. engage: welcoming and integration)
- Research and initiate a new ministry that engages with Orange within a Gospel framework
- Undertake training and research to prepare to plant a church after 3 years

Key challenges

- Guarding personal life, character and doctrine closely
- Ensuring personal and family health and wellbeing
- Working within a staff team
- Leading across a large church
- Investing in professional development and church planting training

Key relationships

- *Senior Minister/Church@9 Congregational Minister*: To work collaboratively to lead and manage the activities of the congregation and be accountable for personal life and ministry



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- *Ministry Staff:* To work collaboratively across the various congregations and ministries of OEC
- *OEC Leaders:* To work collaboratively with volunteers



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Essential requirements

- Growing Christian man with a reputation for prayerfulness and faithful, systematic and expository bible teaching
- Displays Godly character in accordance with Titus 1:7-9, 1 Timothy 3:2-7 and 1 Peter 5:1-5
- Clear, effective communicator including being a compassionate and caring listener
- A degree from a reformed theological college.
- Self starting leader, with the ability to launch new initiatives with a team