



Seeking a new Pastor - Pastor role and Church profile

Role Overview: We seek a dedicated and passionate Minister for Grace Church Rotorua who aligns with Grace Presbyterian Church beliefs. The ideal candidate will shepherd our congregation, provide biblical teaching, pastoral care, and lead us in worship and mission.

The Pastor's role

Position: Pastor, part time or full time

Location: Rotorua, New Zealand

Key responsibilities

Biblical leadership

- Faithful gospel-focused teaching and preaching
- Lead church services, including the administration of sacraments
- Build on the initial church plant, and inspire and lead a diverse congregation
- Work with current Presbytery appointed Session

Pastoral

- Regular visitations to members of the congregation, providing spiritual support, encouragement, and prayer
- Foster spiritual growth and discipleship within the congregation
- Provide pastoral care and counseling to individuals and families

Community

- Champion a spirit of community and connection, reflecting the church's commitment to being a unified family
- Promote and guide small groups
- Oversee and mentor church volunteers
- Growing the church and developing a presence in the community

Key attributes & prior experiences:

- Strong and discerning leadership and people-centric skills
- Passion for biblical teaching of the whole counsel of God
- Commitment to prayer and intercession
- Compassionate, patient and approachable demeanor
- Leading diverse or multicultural congregations or groups
- Discipling and mentoring
- Community outreach

Specific areas for ministry within the Rotorua Church:

1. Building relationships across all age groups; getting to know the congregation
 2. Encouraging members to exercise their own spiritual gifts
 3. Continue or develop ministries to meet community needs, including families with young children
 4. Prioritising discipleship programs and mentorship opportunities
-

Church Background

Grace Rotorua (gracechurchrotorua.co.nz) was founded in April 2010 by Steve and Eva Panapa. Steve retired in January 2017, to look after Eva following a serious operation.

In 2019, Paul & Crystal Henry learned about the need in Rotorua. They accepted a call to the Rotorua church from January 2020, moving to Tauranga in August 2024.

We are a mission church of Grace Presbyterian Church of NZ, looking to become a particular church with local eldership at some point.

The church has ~30 members along with a few regular adherents, spanning across age groups and ethnicities. The church experiences good attendance, both from local members and regular visitors, often influenced by Rotorua's status as a tourist destination. There is a desire for increased local member involvement and leadership.

We follow the reformed, biblical, evangelical, and presbyterian heritage of our national church.

Church Community

Grace Church Rotorua is a community of Rotorua residents with a heart for growing and seeing others grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ.

Our congregation is passionate about sound doctrine, teaching and guidance; genuine fellowship; and has a strong sense of solidarity and mutual care. We are

largely composed of individuals and families who have moved to Rotorua for career opportunities, originating from different regions of New Zealand and overseas.

There is a strong sense of love and community in the church, with the church often fulfilling the role of an extended family network in Rotorua. This might range from practical support during sickness, social get-togethers, small groups and more.

Many members come from diverse Christian backgrounds and have found a spiritual home in Grace Church Rotorua. They have been attracted to the church by the doctrines of grace and centrality of Christ, and compassionate shepherding.

Members desire a minister who encourages spiritual growth, strengthens unity within the church, and deepens their love for God and others. Members are generally consistent attendees and most are involved in the church community in some way.

Rotorua

Rotorua is a vibrant community, known for its stunning geothermal landscapes, rich cultural heritage and outdoor recreational opportunities - including the famed Whakarewarewa Forest (Redwoods).

As a major visitor destination – for tourism, activities, and sport and cultural events – Rotorua is an interesting and exciting place to ‘live, work, and play’.

The city offers a unique living experience, with its renowned hot springs, geysers and mud pools. It is a hub for outdoor and adventure sports, such as mountain biking, hiking, trout fishing and water activities on the beautiful lakes surrounding the area.

It is surrounded by a range of agriculture, forestry and tourist activities. Large employers include the local Hospital, Scion Research Institute, forestry companies, culture and tourism attractions and the local Polytech.

Rotorua is situated centrally in the North Island, about 45 minutes from the sea and about 2 ¾ hours from Auckland. It is a city and district of just over 77,000 people.

Rotorua also faces various social challenges within the community. Ministry opportunities for a church in Rotorua are significant, both within the church community and within the wider community.

Learn more about Rotorua: <https://www.rotoruanz.com/>

Enquiries and Communications

To: Ian Grant, Elder | craigelachie@gmail.com