



senior pastor opportunity profile

KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ANN ARBOR, MI



Rooted in God's grace, we seek to advance the flourishing of the world by **reaching, nurturing, equipping, and mobilizing** people with the truth and love of Jesus.

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OUR HEART

VALUES

Spiritual Depth

We believe the Bible to be the inerrant Word of God that transcends time and culture, and we commit to examine it together as the ultimate, deepest source of truth in a changing world.

God-Centered Worship

Since God created all humanity in his image for his glory, we can only rightly understand our proper place in this world by finding our joy in him.

Generous Hearts & Lives

In response to God's mercy shown to us, we pour our time, talents, and resources into one another's lives, while also knowing how to prioritize rest and quietness with God.

Mentoring Across Generations

We promote cross-generational fellowship and discipleship, honoring young and old.

Building Beloved Community

In our fractured time, we make every effort to pursue unity in Christ across political and cultural divides.

STRENGTHS

Resiliency: Committed, mature members who seek the flourishing of the Gospel in our midst, and beyond, in the context of real, sometimes messy, relationships.

Theological Depth: Recognizing the authority of scripture, we are committed to faithful Biblical teaching and preaching for all ages.

Historical Stability: With our history of generous giving, we have a well maintained and debt-free building, and are eager to use it to share the love of Christ with those around us.

OUR STORY

God-Driven Origins

From our beginnings as a church plant of two nearby EPC churches in the early 1990's, the Lord allowed for considerable growth and the capacity to quickly become a particular church in 1995. After years of renting meeting space in a local school, the Lord opened the way for the construction of our 37,000 square foot facility on a campus of 50 acres, which became our permanent home in 2000.

Steady Growth and Financial Freedom

During our first years in our new building, strong attendance at our Sunday services and in our thriving children and youth programs accompanied participation in community groups as places of significant support and spiritual growth. In 2016, a capital campaign was undertaken to retire the mortgage on the building and by God's grace we were able to do so within a year.

Endurance through Challenges

During the first 25+ years of growth, God granted us significant stability in the pastors, staff, elders and lay leaders who served us. In 2015, our senior pastor of 12 years resigned and it was nearly four years before we recruited and hired a new senior pastor. The following years saw a time of turmoil, as the COVID-19 pandemic and political upheaval took their toll on many churches, including ours. In 2024, our senior pastor and two associates all resigned within three months of each other (January - March 2024).

Humbled Expectation

Yet through it all, God has been faithful to sustain and grow us. We have been under the care of an experienced Transitional Pastor and Associate Pastor, who, with our session members, have been a great source of stability and encouragement. Several efforts are underway to clarify and implement the vision of our church. We trust this season of transition has been a time of pruning and preparation for the new fruit God intends to bear in us, by his grace and for his glory.



OUR LIFE TOGETHER



Worship

Sunday gathering is the primary way we come together to worship God, learn from Scripture, and create space for one another. Our worship and music blend contemporary and traditional elements.

Christian Education

All CE classes (Children, Youth and Adult) meet after the morning service throughout the school year. Here we come together to learn and apply God's Word in more intimate settings.



Community Groups

Community groups are where we can do life together as a church, whether studying the Bible, sharing prayer requests, or serving together. Our groups are geographical and relational outposts where both believers and those exploring the truths of Christianity can engage with others and consider the claims of Christ.



Missions

Serving God in both word and deed is a fundamental part of our faith. We commit a substantial part of our giving to local organizations and to local and international missionaries who share the gospel and serve practical needs. We also volunteer and participate in mission trips with our ministry partners.



Ministries

Knox has a rich tradition of lay-led ministries addressing different topics and stages of life. Many of these groups are open to newcomers and those who don't attend Knox as their home church.

- **Men's and Women's ministries** offer Bible studies, book studies, and gatherings to explore questions of life and faith and to encourage one another.
- **Moms Together** gathers moms of all ages to study, equip, and pray for each other.
- **Taking Time Together** gathers retirees and empty nesters who wish to find community in their life stage.
- **Chinese** language groups gather for Bible study and relationship building.
- **Prayer** gatherings provide opportunities throughout the week to pray for specific needs within our church, community and the world.
- Our **Youth Ministry** is where young people experience loving fellowship with other students and adult leaders.
- Our **Children's Ministry** works alongside parents to show kids the love that Jesus has for them, helping them to trust Him with their lives.
- The **Diaconate** is active in ministering to the concrete needs of those in crisis in our church and in our wider community, as well as to connect members of Knox to serve in various areas.

Leadership

Ministry Leaders

Knox has two presently serving transitional pastors, a full-time worship director, children's ministry director and a youth director. These leaders seek to connect with the congregation, while seeking to make the gospel known and living out our vision and values.

Staff

In addition to the ministry leaders, Knox has a staff of 8 full- and part-time employees who are hungry for leadership as they seek to equip the saints for the work of ministry.

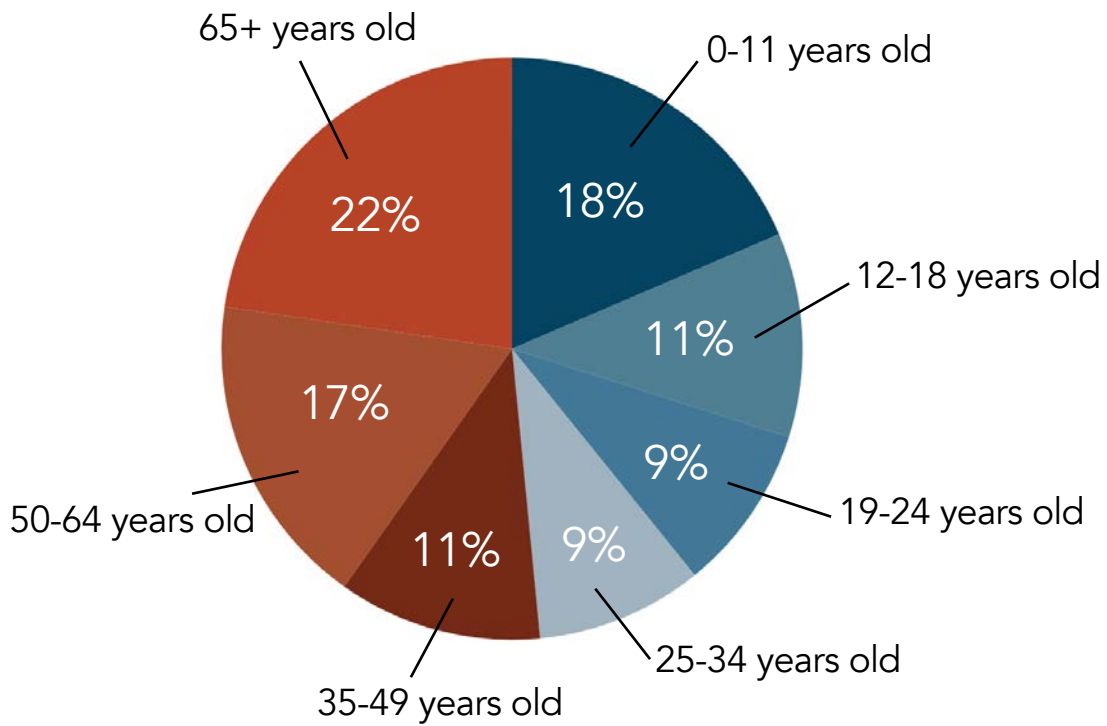
Session & Diaconate

Knox has 12 active elders and 13 active deacons who faithfully serve the church.



Our Community

Age Profile



Church Members



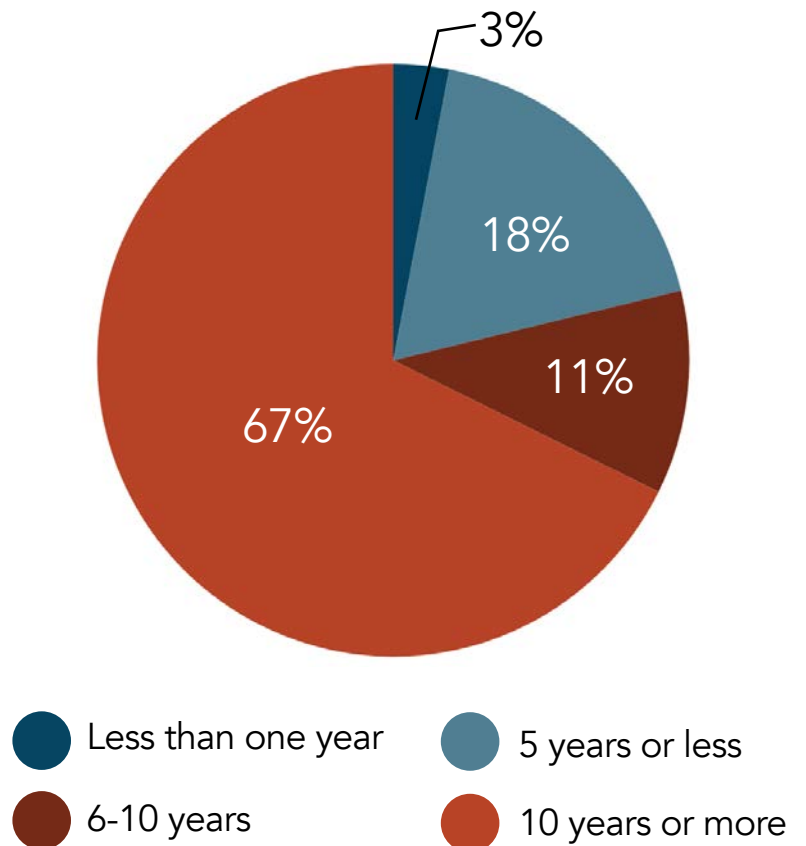
Family Units



Weekly Worship



Length of Membership



OUR TOWN

Ann Arbor, located in Washtenaw County, is a vibrant college town dominated by the University of Michigan with other institutions of higher education nearby. This draws people with diverse cultural, political, and theological sensibilities. A significant portion of our church body are affiliated with universities in some way, whether as students, staff, or faculty members. Many of us work in fields of education, healthcare, and engineering. Our university setting creates regular opportunities to welcome new people into our community, rooted by those who have made Ann Arbor their home base.

We find ourselves at an intriguing crossroads. Located in a town at one point named as the most educated city in the United States, our building is next door to a neighborhood of mobile homes and across the street from rolling fields of haystacks and pumpkins. The neighboring Ypsilanti and greater Detroit area is home to one of the oldest and largest Arab-American populations outside the Middle East. Dozens of languages are spoken in the Ann Arbor Public Schools. In the smaller communities surrounding Ann Arbor, families host farm stands and participate in 4H fairs.

Our church body pursues active engagement within the circles God has placed us. From the automotive industry to the hospital, from classroom to stadium, we seek the prosperity and flourishing of our city, to the glory of God.



OUR FUTURE



Hope

We are a body hungry for the Lord to enliven our vision and unleash our energies to make his name known in our midst, in our community, at the University, and to the ends of the earth. We are eager for God's healing, redemptive work in our lives. We are trusting him to bring fresh growth and wholeness in the years ahead, reshaping our identity and demonstrating humble dependance on him each step of the way.

Opportunity

We long for a pastor who finds joy in:

- Developing the leadership and gifts of God's people
- Bringing Gospel encouragement to them in all aspects of life
- Eager to draw near to know and love them in their uniqueness

If this sounds like you, we invite you to consider coming to join us as we seek the Lord with gladness.

OUR (*NEXT*) PASTOR

Knox Presbyterian Church (EPC) in Ann Arbor seeks a senior pastor to provide executive, spiritual, and strategic leadership to our established, multi-generational congregation.

We seek a pastor who...

- Demonstrates a **love for Jesus Christ and his Church**.
- Is **encountering God** in prayer, and is growing spiritually and in dependency on Christ through God's grace.
- Demonstrates **executive leadership** in a complex ministry setting. Is able to guide both the Session and congregation in personal growth and outreach to the community and world, in accordance with Knox's Vision Statement.
- Can **foster collaboration and spiritual growth** among staff and church leaders. Can bring the love of God and the encouragement of the scripture into the lives of individual church members.
- Has demonstrated the ability to **exposit the gospel of grace from scripture**, challenging the congregation to grow in Jesus Christ and to live out their faith.

Necessary Qualifications

- Ordained (or ordainable) Teaching Elder in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church
- Master of Divinity from an accredited seminary

Desirable Experience

- 10 years or more pastoral experience
- Experience on a multi-pastor staff

HOW TO APPLY

McGowan Global Institute is assisting us in our search.

APPLY: mcgowanglobal.com/pastor-registration

QUESTIONS: Rev. Dr. Case Thorp case@mcgowanglobal.com

If you're excited to

**REACH
NURTURE
EQUIP &
MOBILIZE**

IN ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN,
WE'D LOVE TO TALK WITH YOU.

KNOX