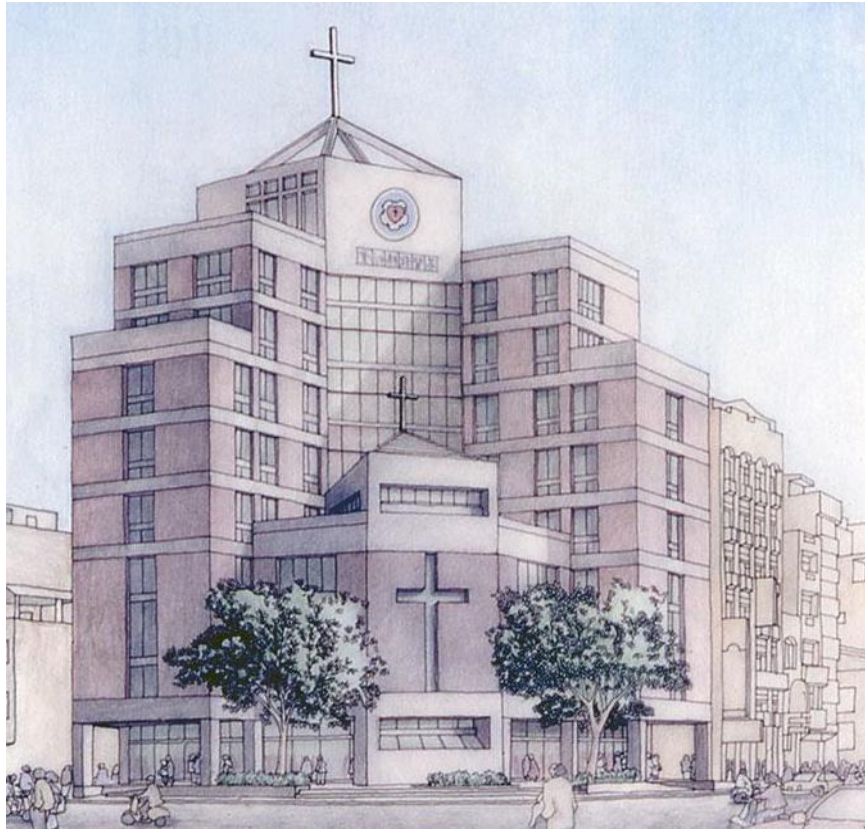


Victory English Fellowship
A part of Victory Chinese Lutheran Brethren Church



Pastor Opportunity Profile

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www.vefellowship.com

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/victoryenglishfellowship/>

Hsinchu is a city in northern Taiwan located roughly one hour south of Taipei. It has a population of 450,000. Hsinchu is home to almost 400 high tech companies and has the highest income level in Taiwan as a result. It is also home to two of the top ranked universities in Taiwan – National Chiao Tung University and National Tsing Hua University.



Hsinchu has one of the highest birth rates in Taiwan (most likely due to the high income level). Because of the large number of children in the city there are many private cram schools that teach English among other subjects. Many foreigners from English speaking countries such as the U.S., Canada, Australia, and South Africa come to teach English for a time after college. There are also over 1200 foreign students at the universities in town. There are also many expatriate business men and women stationed in Hsinchu for 1-2 years working in the high tech industry. Get to know Taiwan better at the links below:

- <https://eng.taiwan.net.tw/>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tourism_in_Taiwan
- <https://www.taiwan.gov.tw/index.php>
- <https://www.travel.taipei/en>

Victory Lutheran Church was founded in 1951 when a missionary's daughter donated \$100 USD to purchase a building near a naval academy in Hsinchu to be used for evangelism. The church has outgrown the church buildings several times in her history and the current building was completed in 1998. The English ministry of Victory began in the form of a Sunday school in 1994 when an English Sunday school was started to meet the needs of Taiwanese families who had lived in the U.S. and now were returning to Taiwan to work in the high tech industry. In 1998 a monthly English worship service was started and soon it grew to a weekly service. Currently there are around 1500 people that worship weekly at Victory. Victory English Fellowship has 200 adults and children attending two worship services on Sundays.

VEF is part of Victory Lutheran Church, but for all practical purposes it is an international church. The people that make up VEF come from thirty to forty countries and have a variety of different church backgrounds – Lutheran, Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist, Mennonite,



Pentecostal, non-denominational, Catholic, etc. – and unchurched backgrounds. What united us together is that we seek to worship God, hear the Word preached, and fellowship together. While Victory is a Lutheran church it isn't essential that the senior pastor comes out of a Lutheran background. Previous pastors have come out of Presbyterian, Methodist, Charismatic, and Lutheran backgrounds. It isn't an official statement, but we practice "In essentials unity, in non-essentials liberty, in all things charity."

- Our largest demographic are "ABC's" - American-born Chinese families. These parents appreciate their children having a Worship Service, Youth Group or Sunday School in English, while the parents may prefer to be in the Chinese service.

- We have many families who adorn the church with children, these families may come to Taiwan because of working at the nearby high tech industry, through missionary organizations, through teaching or other reasons. VEF maintains a Sunday School program (nursery to sixth grade) during the morning service and a youth group (junior high and high school students) which meets on Friday nights. We also offer a Vacation Bible School during the late summer.



- We also have many university students who are studying (ranging from bachelor degrees to PhDs). The students come from Singapore, Indonesia, Gambia, Haiti, Germany, Sweden, Honduras, and Eswatini just to name a few countries.



- There are also many young adults that teach English in the public school system or in private cram schools. The community of VEF is transient with many people staying in Taiwan between one to two years. We struggle to reach these young adults, as they are here only for a short time and distracted with school and work activities.
- VEF supports several small groups (around 12) that meet throughout the week including a Korean language speaking group and Indonesian language speaking group. These groups are led by mature church members and report to the pastoral staff.



- The church sponsors several social events each year and encourages our congregation to participate and bring friends, offering an opportunity for outreach.



VEF seeks to glorify God by providing a place where people can worship together. There are many opportunities for outreach in the community. Many expatriates come to Taiwan from places where there isn't a large Christian population and they aren't Christian themselves, but when they come to Taiwan they are more open and receptive to receiving the Gospel. We have seen students from places like India and Iran believe and be baptized. One of our goals is seeking to train and equip our members to serve the Kingdom of God whether they are in Taiwan, back in their home country, or have moved to someplace new.

VEF has two worship services – one at 9:00 and one at 1:30. The 9:00 service has a children's Sunday school. The 1:30 service is a more interactive style where people sit at tables and have an opportunity to interact through an ice breaker question before the service starts and after the sermon is done there is a time of discussion and prayer.



Outreach and missions are an important part of VEF. Each year there are two opportunities to serve on an overseas mission trip - one to southern Thailand working with a Muslim population and a second trip to Japan working with a church plant. We also have several members who regularly visit foreign inmates in prison. There is also a group from church that volunteers in a girls' shelter.



VEF has 2 full-time pastors and a secretary. Taiwan regulations require that the pastor have a missionary visa (for non-Taiwanese citizens). Victory Church offers a two-year contract with the desire and hopes that the pastor will stay longer. The senior English pastor is responsible to the Victory elder board (Chinese speaking side) and the VEF leadership team.

The search committee hopes that applications for the position of Senior Pastor will be received by the end of April 2020. It is our hope that a new pastor would be able to start by late 2020 (or sooner if possible).

VEF Senior Pastor Job Description

Qualifications

- Ordained pastor with 2 years of full-time experience.
- Theological training (Masters level)
- Have a passion to win people for Christ and make disciples.
- Self-motivated and well organized with the ability to work independently.
- Cultural sensitivity - ability to work in a multicultural setting.
- Ability to build unity among a diverse congregation.
- Excellent leadership and communications skills.
- Agreement with Victory's Statement of Faith.
- Excellent communication skills.

VEF Senior Pastor Roles

- Provide leadership and vision for the English speaking congregation.
- Oversee English ministry staff.
- Oversee worship services (including preaching).
- Pastoral Care (provide Biblical counsel to church members).
- Oversee VEF Ministries through working with volunteers.
- Work with lay leadership in oversight of VEF.
- Connect with the English-speaking community in Hsinchu.
- Cooperate with the mother Chinese church leadership and administration.

Remuneration

VEF will provide a compensation package that will provide basic living expenses, a housing allowance, health insurance, labor insurance, pension, and travel to/from the pastor's home country once every two years.

To apply for the position of VEF Senior Pastor please submit the following:

Letter of application that addresses qualifications as listed in the job description

Current resume

Salvation testimony

Send all inquiries to Jeff Case at vefpastorsearch@gmail.com.

Doctrinal Statement of Faith – Church of the Lutheran Brethren

1. The Bible, including both the Old and New Testaments as originally given, is verbally and plenary inspired and free from error in the whole and in the part, and is therefore the final and authoritative guide for faith and conduct.
2. There is one God eternally existent in three distinct persons in one divine essence, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
3. God the Father has revealed Himself to us as the Creator of the world and its preserver, to Whom the entire creation and all creatures are subject.
4. Jesus Christ, the Eternal Son, is the image of the invisible God. To accomplish our redemption, He took upon Himself the form of man, being conceived of the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary. By His perfect obedience and substitutionary death on the cross, He has purchased our redemption. He arose from the dead “for our justification” in the body in which He was crucified. He ascended into heaven, where He is now seated at the right hand of God, the Father, as our interceding High Priest. He will come a second time personally, bodily and visibly to gather the believers unto Himself, and to establish His millennial kingdom. Finally, He will judge the living and the dead and make an eternal separation between believers and unbelievers.
5. The Holy Spirit is a divine person eternally one with the Father and with the Son. His ministry is to call, to regenerate repentant sinners, to sanctify believers and to preserve them in the one true faith. He guides and comforts the children of God, directs and empowers the Church in fulfillment of the great commission, and “convicts the world of sin and of righteousness and of judgment.”
6. Man was originally created in the image and after the likeness of God to live in His fellowship. He fell into sin through the temptation of Satan and thereby lost fellowship with God, became totally depraved and is under the wrath of God.
7. The knowledge and benefit of Christ’s redemption from sin is brought to man through the means of grace, namely the Word and the sacraments. Through the Word, both the law and the gospel, God convicts of sin and bestows His grace in Christ unto the forgiveness of sin to all who repent and believe. We believe that all who have reached the age of accountability must have a conscious experience of sin and saving grace. In the Sacrament of Baptism, God offers the benefits of Christ’s redemption to all men and graciously bestows the washing of regeneration and the newness of life to every believer. Because of the total depravity of human nature, and because the promise of God also includes little children, infants are to be baptized. In the Sacrament of Holy Communion, Christ gives to the communicants His body and His blood, declares the forgiveness of sins to all believers and strengthens their faith.
8. The Church Universal consists of all those who truly believe in Jesus Christ as Savior. The local congregation is the communion of saints or true believers “in which the gospel is rightly taught and the sacraments are rightly administered.” Therefore, it follows that the membership of the local congregation shall comprise only those who by life and testimony show that they are living in fellowship with Jesus Christ.