

At A Glance

Delhi International Christian Fellowship is seeking its next senior pastor. Building on a strong foundation, we are looking for our next leader who has the heart of a gracious shepherd, the skills of an engaging learner/teacher, and the vision for the impact of a winsome church of internationals in the great, global crossroads of New Delhi.

We know why we exist. God has uniquely placed us in this dynamic, global city to help strangers become friends, to introduce seekers to Jesus Christ, and to train God's people to have influence for Christ wherever they go. Our unique assignment is to reach the internationals who call Delhi home, with the eternal hope found in Christ.

The church family is an English-speaking, interdenominational community of people who gather from around the world and who are devoted to the timeless truth of God's Word and to living as Christ followers in the world.

Currently, the church has approximately 120 adults and 40 children attending from many countries. It is made up of expatriates, and Indian nationals from various walks of life.

Delhi is a dynamic and vibrant city, which can have a steep learning curve, but for the curious an open hearted it can be an endlessly and fascinating adventure. Our new pastor will need to both prepared and called to an international congregation in such an amazing place. Because of government restrictions, the pastor will need to be content focusing on reaching the tens of thousands of expatriates from around the world currently residing in Delhi NCR. Besides flexibility, they will need to be mature (whatever their age), operate out of deep character, be a skilled equipper for life and ministry, and deeply compassionate. In short, have the gifts of a faithful shepherd and steward mixed with a heart to reach those far from God as well as nurturing the congregation.



Living in Delhi

We have an apartment ready for a pastor in the middle of Delhi. In close vicinity to the Church location and quite central to where most of our congregation resides. There is a large option of markets to go to and numerous restaurants, shops, parks, monuments, etc. to explore during the week. Delhi is crowded, polluted, and chaotic. Delhi's summer is extremely hot and winter is really cold. Despite the challenges you will probably fall in love with the curiosity, friendliness and openness of people to connect. A walk in Old Delhi will amaze you and make you feel you have gone back 100 years in time! To enjoy some quiet time or in taking time to relax, you can discover the various parks and green spaces. Alternatively, you can escape the heat in one of a number of shopping malls dotted around the city, or explore some of the outstanding restaurants that serve amazing foods. Delhi is such a mix of poor and rich, old and modern, you will always see and experience things that amaze you.

The Back Story

DICF's roots go back to Delhi Union Church. After the government stopped giving visa to religious works in 1984, that church closed and transformed into a home-church launched by a British businessman. In 2002, the congregation of 100 decided it was time to make a greater impact on the growing international community.

DICF officially received Indian Society status in 2003 and this provided the structure whereby the Board of the society (church) could request an employment visa for a ministry administrator. This is still the structure under which pastors are called.

DICF is a non-denominational Church. We are part of the <u>Missional International Church Network</u> (MICN). MICN is a network of like-minded Churches serving the international community in cities around the world who share a similar framework for mission, theology, development, and collaboration.

Our Essential Foundations

DICF can be described as broadly evangelical within the Christian faith. We attempt to live out what the Lausanne Covenant describes as a "friendship between evangelistic passion and theological reflection."

For us, this is lived out as a very high view of the authority and truth of the Christian scriptures in the Bible combined with four timeless creedal declarations: the Apostles Creed, the Nicene Creed, the Athanasian Creed and the Heidelberg Catechism.* (Note: While the Catechism specifies infant baptism, as an international church with people from many different traditions, we try to accommodate baptism modes according to the traditions of their home church family.)



Our Hopeful Horizon

Along with other international churches, people are always moving home or moving on and Delhi's complexity speeds up the turnover a bit. We believe that Christ is the head of the Church, and we have sought to follow His lead as the Church family has recovered from the pandemic and moved towards health over the last three years. As we seek the Lord's direction for the next chapter in our history, we are excited about the possibilities!

We have:

- A long foundation of thoughtful, gracious, and winsome leadership
- An excellent reputation and working relationships for facilities, collaborations, and outreach
- A loving and committed Church family active in various ministries children's ministry, weekly prayer meetings, women's ministry, men's ministry, bible study groups and supporting charities
- An effective team of assistants and technical staff
- Many untapped opportunities for contact influence among newer expatriates and internationals who are now unfamiliar with the church. Most of the expats are in one of these categories: diplomats, business people, foreign students and people who come to India for medical treatment.
- Strategic proximity to diplomatic enclave of New Delhi and equidistant to the centers where Delhi's internationals live and work

Our hope for the future

Under the direction of our new pastor and in partnership with the Holy Spirit we desire to see DICF have greater spiritual influence in this great city! We hope to build:

- stronger relationships with various Embassies, international groups and business hubs.
- To seek the Lord's direction for ways that we can have a greater kingdom impact on the expatriate community in Delhi.
- To see continued growth in our Sunday morning worship gatherings. At present we average between 130-175 people each week.
- Start an outreach program to reach expats. This can be done through hospital visits (to reach medical tourists), small groups in Embassies, starting and growing of

- multiple men/ladies/mixed groups where members can bring outsiders, and so many more opportunities to explore!
- To be a place where the presence and peace of God is so noticeable that our Sunday worship gathering will be one of the highlights of the week where each member will be encouraged to grow in their relationship with our Heavenly Father.
- Once this is reached, we do have hopes to spread out to other areas in Delhi NCR where expats are residing, we have dreams to have satellite services in multiple places.



Our Current Hurdles

- **Funding...**During covid times our funds almost dried up. God has blessed us through the weekly giving of our Church family and we are again able to provide full funding for pastor salary as well as the Church ministries. We are not back yet to how we used to be, but God is faithful.
- Facility...Our Sunday worship services meet in an auditorium rented from a wonderful and large Catholic girls' school. All other weekly and monthly programs meet in a variety of venues. This requires creativity for weekly programs, special events, and seasonal services.
- Opening our doors wide...It is our heart's desire to reach the expatriates living in Delhi and tell them about the warmth, vibrancy, and thoughtful spiritual home that awaits them at DICF.

How do we do this?

 We aim to enhance our visibility through the use of multiple social media platforms and building welcoming bridges of relationship with the very mobile and dynamic expatriate community.

- External to the church, this will require utilizing multiple social media platforms and building welcoming bridges of relationship with embassies, NGO's, clubs, and business networks.
- Within the church, we want to give ourselves to continue building a vibrant kids' ministries for our children, fortifying our times of passionate worship, and continue the strengthening of our men's and women's ministries

Professional and Leadership Requirements

- Fluent in English
- Degrees from an accredited university and theological college or seminary
- Ordained with significant international church experience
- Sensitive to cultural, denominational, and political differences with a flexible calm disposition, patience, and curiosity necessary for a global setting like Delhi (operating in the fruits of the Spirit)
- Well-organized, self-sufficient, collaborative with excellent people skills
- Gifted in leadership, communication, and team facilitation with the Board
- Heart for God and have the ability to maintain their spiritual disciplines for their own sustenance, that of their family, and the whole church
- Regularly engages those far from God in thoughtful conversations

Pastoral Benefits

- Full-time salaried position. (Note: If the pastor has school aged children, the pastor will be responsible for covering the cost of their education)
- Health insurance and paid annual leave
- Furnished three-bedroom apartment
- Full-time personal assistant/driver who is highly proficient regarding living and thriving in Delhi
- Car, fuel, and maintenance
- Professional entertainment expenses

Responding to God's Call

Does this Opportunity Profile stir something in your heart? Do you sense the Lord may be calling you to serve in this pastoral role? If so, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Peter at **DICFPastorCall@gmail.com**

Our Church Board

Our board contains at the moment 7 members from different nationalities, cultures and professional backgrounds, representing our multicultural congregation. Let us introduce ourselves so you know who you are talking with:



My name is Peter, I am from the Netherlands, have been in India for almost 20 years now and I have been part of DICF since 17 years. My wife, children and myself live just out of Delhi in Faridabad. We run a small organization that provides free education to underprivileged children and stitching classes for women. DICF is close to our hearts. I have been on the board since 2018.



My name is Sameer Issachar. I grew up in Dehradun and now a resident of Delhi, India. DICF holds a special place in my life, and I am associated with it since 2007.

I work with FedEx and enjoy trekking. I love to make new friends and encourage them in Christ. Blessings!



My name is Anne Mburu-de Wagt. I am from Kenya. I am married and mum to two young adult sons. Our family arrived in India in 2017, by way my husband's work. I have been part of DICF since 2019 and part of the board since 2023. I am part of the Children's Ministry. It is my joy to share the word of God with the next generation and raise them in the love of the Lord Jesus. My family and I have been immeasurably blessed by DICF.



My name is Jossy Jacob. I have been in Delhi & DICF for 3+ years. My husband and I work at the US Embassy. We are originally from south India, immigrated to the US many years ago. We have 2 daughters studying in the US. DICF is very special for me. I am excited to work with Sunday school ministry.



My name is Guerlain Ulysse. My wife and I moved to New Delhi for a U.S embassy work assignment in June 2023. And we have been attending DICF ever since. I am originally from New York and have lived in a few states, including the State of New Jersey and Michigan (Go Blue!). We love the DICF community and feel blessed to serve alongside its members.



My name is Umang Taneja. I was born in Delhi, India, and grew up in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, in a warm, multi-faith family. I came to know Jesus during a challenging period in the early 2000s, when I began reading the Bible—initially to question it, but ultimately discovering the grace and love of Christ that transformed my life. I've been part of DICF for 17 years, and the church has been central to my spiritual journey. I work as a Senior Director of Project Management for a US-based company, collaborating with teams across cultures. My wife and I have two teenage children, and we are grateful to be growing in faith together.



My name is Ariella. I am a nutritional therapy practitioner and run a social-impact-focused gut-health startup that employs underprivileged women while creating healthy alternatives to commonly consumed foods. Born and raised in Mussoorie, Uttarakhand, I moved to Delhi in 2016 and have been a part of DICF since 2018. DICF has been my family away from home and has encouraged me tremendously while strengthening my faith.

In the last year and a half, I have begun volunteering with Red Rope, which I learned about through DICF, helping to rescue and repatriate survivors of human trafficking. Through this work, I have found a clear calling on my life, and I am excited to begin serving more as part of the board.