

Dear Prospective Intern:

I am delighted that you are considering joining the staff team at Trinity for a year's exploration and experience in pastoral ministry. Each intern we have had has provided a valuable contribution to the life, fellowship and ministry of Trinity Baptist Church. We seek to ensure that everyone's time as an intern is maximally beneficial to the glory of God.

The process for becoming an intern is intended to ascertain that you find a good fit for your year, and that the leadership of the church gets a good chance to feel that we can be of educational assistance to you. Please look on this year as a chance to give and serve, in whatever area of ministry you are placed, as well as a chance to learn from the more formal instructional time. There are also plenty of mentoring opportunities.

All ministry is service and one of the best things you'll learn is a servant heart! We believe that the local church is the right place to test out calling to ministry, and have that validated by a local congregation. So we want to provide that kind of environment for 'putting your toe in the water', as it were, and seeking to validate both an internal sense of calling and an external calling from the local body. Our teaching program is designed to give a good basic foundation for Christian ministry, not as a supplement to seminary education, but as an important prior preparation, concurrent or subsequent fine tuning.

In particular, we have a unique role and position, next to world class university (Yale), from where many of our members come, and in a region of America in need of biblical ministry, church revitalization and church planting. Expect to find the ministry training practical, and geared towards doing Biblical ministry in a postmodern environment, with all the challenges that brings. Expect also to find a vision to impact the cultural centers of our world, and bring the gospel of Christ to post-Christendom, and the largely un-churched (or really better "post-churched") New England.

Connecticut is said by some to be the area with lowest church attendance figures in the USA. Statistics are notoriously wobbly, and we are delighted to be able to proclaim that God is alive and well in New England, even next to the hallowed halls of Yale. Since 1999, the Lord has been pleased to grow our church from a few faithful, to a vibrant congregation of a few hundred or so on Sunday mornings, and pushing a hundred at our contemporary service on Sunday evenings. We are a Bible driven, Christ-centered, God-glorifying church – at least in our intention. Come and experience a church that wants to be non-cheesy, thoroughly Scriptural, and is committed to mission in a local environment, as well as globally.

My own background is partly academic, partly pastoral, and partly missional. After an undergraduate degree from Cambridge University in England, I did mission work pioneering in the former Soviet Union, pastoral training in northern suburbs of London, and then returned to do a Ph.D. in Theology at Cambridge University again. I am passionately committed to exalting Christ, and believe that in our thoroughly self-orientated age a key message that needs to be delivered is that of "The God-Centered Life." You'll find a whole strew of folk like me at Trinity: loving God with their heart, soul and mind, engaged at the university, in evangelism among the homeless, in family life and ministry to the suburbs, in every area that God calls us.

I look forward to reading your application and, God willing, meeting you in due course. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact the church.

With warmest good wishes,

Josh Moody