

Pastoral Invitation

Kuta International Christian Church is seeking short term – mid – long term volunteer pastor(s) for international church who senses the call of God to serve His people in Bali, Indonesia.

Job Description: KICC Volunteer in Ministry (ViM) Pastor

Due to the makeup of the congregation and the Indonesian culture, this is a unique role which should be viewed as a missionary posting.

Firstly, due to the significant percentage of English speaking Indonesians who are members of KICC, there is a cultural challenge that cannot be underestimated. In reality it can only be dealt with through a thorough understanding of the redemptive humility of Christ, and a willingness to understand that we as westerners will perhaps never fully understand the intricacies of the local 'cultures'. But if approached properly the richness of blessing is extraordinary.

Secondly, KICC's financial position means that its ability to financially support a pastor is limited. Well over half of our congregation is Indonesian, with average salaries of less than US\$4,000 per annum, and most of the expats are either retirees or work locally for very low salaries compared to back home. Although the support package we are offering well exceeds local average wages, it may not be sufficient for a western pastor to maintain the standard of living they are used to. This means that anyone coming to pastor KICC may want to be at least partly self-funded or funded by a home church or society.

The pastor should be aware that though the worship is conducted in English, most are NOT native English speakers, and therefore it is imperative that sermons be clear, to the point, bible-centred, and life-centred. Theological vocabulary is to be avoided as are idioms or trendy language. Suggested length of sermon approximately 20 minutes

The pastoral responsibilities are in fact no different from any other church. Preaching, Bible studies, prayer groups and spiritual counselling are all needed. He/she must be able to conduct weddings and funerals as required. There are also many opportunities for outreach through evangelism, social work and prison ministry.

The pastor is supported by a dedicated church council and KICC also has a full time secretary who acts as the church organiser and 'go-to' person. The secretary is very much an assistant to the pastor, and being Indonesian can be very helpful in assisting with the basics of daily living, which in Bali can at times become a challenge.

The pastor is expected to attend monthly Council meetings.

Length of service: **Minimum 3 months**
Immediate need: **mid December, 2018, onwards.....**

The Church

KICC is a fascinating church. The congregation is made up of a core group of expatriate westerners and English speaking Indonesians. The 'local' members are nearly all from islands in Indonesia other than Bali, so there is a diverse mix of 'church' and ethnic cultures even amongst the Indonesians. Add to the mix every Sunday a varying but significant number of transient tourists from all over the world, and you have a very special church. Due mainly to the community culture of the Indonesians it is a church very strong on fellowship and togetherness. For many members of KICC, the church family is their only family.

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Mission statement: “Our purpose is to create a cross cultural, caring Christian Community that will provide opportunities for worship, education and fellowship that is enriched by Indonesian and International Arts.”

History

A visionary Balinese pastor (and now retired Bishop) of the Gereja Kristen Protestan di Bali (GKPB) or ‘Protestant Christian Church of Bali’ foresaw the need to reach out to the many English speaking tourists who were beginning to flock to Bali back in the early 1970’s, particularly from Australia. In 1972, being the only English speaking pastor amongst his Balinese peers, he established an English speaking service in a hotel in Sanur. In 1992 the GKPB leadership under Bishop Mastra’s guidance decided to start an English speaking worship service at one of its churches in Legian, just north of Kuta.

The small congregation became known as the ‘English Worship Service’ (EWS) and was a sister congregation of the Balinese ‘Philadelphia’ congregation. In September 2010 the EWS was given autonomy and became Kuta International Christian Church (KICC) but continued up to the present day to share the church facilities of the Philadelphia congregation. KICC is also closely related to Bukit Doa International Church, an English speaking congregation in Nusa Dua, Bali.

Almost since the inception of the EWS, the English speaking church has relied on itinerant, native English speaking pastors, arranged through the ViM (Volunteers in Mission) program. These have been mainly retired pastors from America, Canada and Australia.

The Overseeing Denomination of KICC

The GKPB (Gereja Kristen Protestan Bali - the Christian Protestant Church in Bali), which is the denomination whose authority is over KICC, initially grew out of the Christian Missionary Alliance (USA), however the CMA was banned from Indonesia for a time and so was handed over to the Dutch Lutheran Church. While the GKPB has long been an autonomous denomination, its theology has followed Lutheran doctrine and is therefore probably best described as conservative evangelical.

Theology

KICC is non-denominational in that all denominations are welcomed. Our theology would probably best be described as charismatic/evangelical/pentecostal. We believe in the Apostles Creed, the Bible as the inerrant word of God, the fruit of the Spirit manifested through holiness and the spiritual gifts, and worshipping in Spirit and in truth.

The Current Situation

KICC is currently being pastored by Pastor Brian Dewey, who stepped up to the role from a position on the council. Brian is happy to remain in this position for the short to medium term until such time as a ViM pastor(s) is appointed. He will continue as oversight of incoming ViM pastor(s) during tenure.

Visas

Due to the challenges from the Indonesian government with regards to admitting Christian ministers for long term stays, the interim solution is through a social visa which allows a stay for up to 6 months. These are quite flexible and can be easily extended if needed. The GKPB Synod provides a letter of invitation, and the applicant will need to go to their nearest Indonesian Embassy to apply for the visa. An alternative is to come into Indonesia on a tourist visa (30 days) then do a quick day trip to Singapore to obtain the social visa. This second option is obviously more expensive as it requires flights and accommodation (if the applicant prefers to stay overnight).

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Finances

Ideally, candidates seeking this position would need financial support from a recognised church or mission board as KICC are not currently able to fully support a pastor financially.

KICC can provide:

1. A Suzuki APV motor vehicle. However, if the pastor is unable to drive, either because of confidence or licence restrictions, then a full-time driver would need to be employed (at pastors own expense approximate cost of A\$200/mth or US\$150/mth).
2. Either a property or an allowance for a property up to the value of 5,000,000 IDR (AU\$500; US\$370) per month
3. Expenses to value of 1,500,000rp to cover electric, fuel, stationery, phone, internet etc.

The GKPB Synod provides:

1. A contribution of 3,500,000 IDR (AU\$350 or US\$260) per month.
2. Payment of visa for pastor

Qualifications for Pastoral Candidates

We welcome applications for this role from Pastors who:

1. Have a father's heart for pastoring a church in Indonesia
2. Significant pastoral and preaching experience
3. Have a charismatic pentecostal background
4. Have legitimate church credentials
5. Are willing to work in cooperation with the Council and Oversight/Co-Ordinator under the governance of the Synod
6. Affirms authority of the Word in belief, life and practice
7. Comfortable with women in ministry leadership

Our prayer is that God will bring the right person to minister to KICC. KICC is a special church that has a very special place in God's plan for Bali. The potential impact of this church through its ministry to Indonesians and expatriate westerners, as well as the many tourists who seek a place of worship, cannot be overestimated. The harvest is ripe...

For more information and to request an application please contact:

Carol Dewey at: carolrd55@hotmail.com.