



LUMIÈRE POUR LA VIE  
ÉGLISE RÉFORMÉE SAINT-MARC

# CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

## Pastor

Founded in 1954, St. Mark's Reformed Church is located in beautiful Quebec City, the cradle of French America. With more than 550,000 inhabitants, Quebec City is the main urban agglomeration in eastern Quebec and one of the largest in Canada. Currently, St. Mark's Reformed Church is looking for a pastor to lead its members in faith, hope and love. The pastor will be called to persevere in prayer and in the ministry of the Word, to administer the sacraments, and to collaborate with the members of the session in pastoring, discipling, and helping the congregation. His ministry will be carried out in the context of Quebec's highly secularized society.



### | Qualities

The character traits we most value are humility, patience, wisdom, discernment and flexibility. We expect our pastor to possess these qualities, as well as a capacity for empathy towards those who suffer, a love for people, and a concern for souls. If coming from outside Quebec, he should learn about the culture, history and society of French-speaking Quebec.

## | Qualifications

The pastor we're looking for must meet the following criteria:

- Adhere to the [Westminster Confession of Faith](#), and the [Heidelberg Catechism](#), and respect the [Ecclesiastical Order and Discipline](#) of the [Reformed Church of Quebec \(ERQ\)](#)
- Possess a theological education attested by an M.Div., a Bachelor of Theology degree, or equivalent\*
- Proclaim the Word in a practical way, with applications for daily life
- Be able to lead the flock in love and truth
- Have skills or training in pastoral counselling
- Be a good administrator (time and resource management)
- Facilitate communication throughout the assembly
- Have strong French-language speaking skills (written French: functional)
- Be able to work with sister churches and other Christian communities
- Have a heart for evangelism
- Have English-language skills (an asset)

*\* Students who have not yet completed their studies may be considered.*

## | Additional information

- The nomination and selection process will be confidential. The successful candidate, after having been called by the congregation, will be examined by the ERQ Synod. After this stage, the candidate will be ordained and blessed by the Synod. To find out more, visit [this page](#).
- Our Church wishes to call a candidate for a five-year term, renewable by common consent.
- The salary offered depends on the candidate's years of experience, according to the ERQ salary scale.

## | Application and information request

You are invited to register your interest by sending the requested documents and your questions to [secretaire1.stmarc@gmail.com](mailto:secretaire1.stmarc@gmail.com), indicating "Appel de candidature" in the subject line.

Additional documents are available upon request.



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## OUR CHURCH

### St. Mark's Reformed Church

St. Mark's Reformed Church is a congregation of the Église Réformée du Québec (ERQ), which is a member of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council (NAPARC). We are a French-speaking missionary church founded in 1954 in Quebec City. Our mission statement is "[To transmit biblical teaching that transforms lives into the likeness of Jesus Christ.](#)"

Like many other religious communities, our parish has been deeply affected by the pandemic. In particular, we lost our place of worship, and had to move between several locations to continue gathering, as regulations allowed. We are now blessed with a permanent place of worship. However, the pastor who had been with us for 20 years stepped down in 2022. These difficult circumstances have led to the departure of a number of members in the last 4 years.

A brainstorming session was held to enable parishioners to express their views on the strengths and weaknesses of the congregation.

#### | Sunday Worship

We have a Reformed liturgy, which parishioners can follow using the bulletin distributed to congregants. The sermons are filmed and broadcast online, before being published on our website. The Lord's Supper takes place on the first Sunday of the month. After the sermon, there is a time for sharing prayer requests and congregational needs. Worship lasts about 75 to 90 minutes, and the sermon, about 30. At present, an elder presides over the service, including when we have a guest preacher. Children leave the service before the sermon to join their Sunday School class. We also have a nursery.

At present, worship attendance varies from Sunday to Sunday (25 to 45 people). We use both the *Arc-en-ciel* songbook and an in-house supplement with more modern songs and some liturgical texts. The hymns, accompanied by piano, recorder and violin, punctuate the liturgy. After worship, we share a time of fellowship over coffee and snacks, and occasionally organize community meals.

### | Weekday activities

Three *groupes VIE* (for *Vérité, Intercession, Entraide* – Truth, Intercession, Mutual assistance) meet at different times during the week. In total, 15 to 18 people take part in these groups. We meet to deepen our understanding of the Word, to pray, and to experience fellowship. Once a month, activities for high-school students are organized with our sister parishes, notably those of Saint-Georges and Charny.

### | Council of Elders

Our church currently has two elders. They have held their positions for many years.

One ERQ parish has just completed a training course on the roles of elder and deacon, in which several members of our congregation took part.

### | Administration

Church finances are healthy. A special fund has been set up for the eventual purchase of a building. Due to the resignation of our pastor, we no longer receive financial support from the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC), but we can count on support from the ERQ, should the need arise. We have a paid secretary who works part-time and handles much of the administration.

## | Strengths of our Church

- Faithfulness in teaching the Word
- Resilience
- Multiculturalism
- Multigenerational
- Connected to Reformed churches in Canada and around the world
- Connected to local churches of other denominations

## | Current challenges

- Renewing the council of elders and establishing a deacon board.
- Revitalizing church life:
  - Worship, prayer, study
  - Fostering spiritual gifts
  - Bringing generations together
- Lightening the workload of elders by delegating the treasury.
- Meeting the needs of young families.