

HCC Internship Overview



The internship at HCC has one major goal – to externally confirm an inward desire to do ministry. The external confirmation is done by the church as they observe you during your time here and benefit from your ministerial labors. The “inward desire” part can sound intimidating, so let us explain. There are those who believe that a desire to be in ministry requires nothing short of the assurance that you have heard the voice of God or seen an angel. We are not in that camp. Rather, we believe every Christian is to pursue being a disciple and Christlikeness. If this is the case then the real question is, why *wouldn't* you have a desire to be in gospel ministry? Of course, not all of us are called to do so full time. The internship at HCC is one way to determine if such a path might be right for you.

The internship at HCC is nothing new or fancy. We proudly say that we just stole things from the best programs we could find in the world and contextualized them for our setting. Most of what we do is based on the MTS training program developed by Anglicans in Sydney, Australia. We have also taken ideas from Holy Trinity Church in Chicago and Capitol Hill Baptist Church in Washington D.C. Our goal is to immerse interns in the life of ministry, make them active participants in ministry, and see them spend much of their time engaging in conversation with great pastors and theologians from the past.

Through these conversations and interaction with our church's life, interns will discover that we believe God's church is the main sounding board of the gospel, but a sounding board that's largely ignored in Christian circles today. Not only that, they will consider what it means to build a church, not according to the latest cultural waves or “whatever works,” but according to all that the Bible says about our life together as the local church.

Internship Structure and Work

We offer the internship program twice a year (January and July). It lasts for two years, regardless of when you enter the program. We usually expect an intern applicant to have completed their undergraduate degree, but exceptional candidates are more than welcome to apply.

The bulk of the intern's office time will be spent studying and doing ministry. Each intern will read the Bible over their two years, taking notes on central theme, how the text points to Christ, and what we ought to believe and obey. This is always the most profound reading interns do. Interns will also read many books, taking notes, writing brief reviews, and discussing their reviews and notes in a weekly meeting with Jeremy Meeks. To get an idea of what you might read during the internship here please see the Intern Reading Plan.

Every week, Jeremy Meeks has a meeting with all the interns for two hours (usually on Thursday morning) to discuss the materials studied in the previous week. This is a time for interns to critically discuss the matters among themselves and Jeremy.

In addition each intern will choose a New Testament book to study for the duration of their internship in order to teach sections from the book at all teaching opportunities that are provided.

Intern life will also consist of many opportunities for discipleship, evangelism, and ministry leadership.

Who is Eligible?

We welcome applications from men and women who are aiming at ministry and who are able to affirm the HCC church covenant and statement of faith. Housing is provided for single people or married people with no children. In addition, interns receive a stipend of \$800 per month for living expenses. We expect each intern to purchase health insurance coverage for themselves (and their spouse, if applicable) for the duration of the internship. We expect each intern to get a job working for about 10 hours a week at a local business. This will provide some financial help, but will also get you engaged with people from the area.

A “Typical” Week

In addition to the reading and writing assignments mentioned above, the intern’s week includes mandatory attendance at elders meetings, all public services of the church, intern discussions, weddings, wedding rehearsals, funerals, weekly service reviews, intern accountability and supervision times, and any spontaneous meetings that arise in the course of a week. Interns will also be brought along to observe pastoral oversight with members of the church on a regular basis. These oversights take place twice a year. Interns will also have the opportunity to travel together with Jeremy Meeks to Latin America to attend Simeon Trust workshops during the course of the program.

Additionally, we ask interns to schedule one-on-one lunches with an elder, deacon, or member of the church on a regular basis. These meetings provide the interns with an opportunity to learn about various aspects of the church’s history and life.

Interns become members of HCC during the time of their internship in order to best fold them into the life of the congregation.

As will quickly become apparent (if you do not already know) life in ministry can be very chaotic and thus we hesitate to even provide a weekly calendar, but with that in mind here is an idea of what you might expect on a weekly basis:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	- Bible reading - Study	- Bible Reading - Study	- Bible Reading - Study	- Bible Reading - Study	- Bible Reading - Study	Day off	- Sunday School - Worship
Afternoon	- Lunch w/member - One to one reading	- College outreach	- Study	- Intern meeting - One to one reading	- Study - Lunch w/member	Day off	Free
Evening	- Men’s Study - Service review	Free	- Women’s Study (female interns)	Free	Free	Day off	Free

Is The Internship For You?

If you believe this internship would benefit your development as a ministry worker, we encourage you to submit an application! The form is available on this website and contains further instructions. We

cannot guarantee either acceptance or your first choice of program dates. If you are flexible about what start-dates work for you, please indicate this on your application.

The best way to determine if the internship is for you is to visit our church and spend at least a weekend here. This gives us a chance to get to know you and for you to get to know us. Once we have reviewed your application we will get in touch with you to discuss your application and if all goes well we will invite you to Nashville to check the program out.