

MAARTEN DEMOEI

Assistant Youth Pastor - Tiel, Netherlands

Tell us about your role in your local congregation.

I am the assistant pastor in my local congregation with a focus on our youth, specifically teenagers and young adults. This means I try to support the other youth workers in our church (or other churches when needed), lead teen services, give sermons, lead bible studies, and try to connect with our youth outside of the weekly service.

What skills do you bring to the role?

I am good at teaching and connecting with others, in combination with a strong feeling of love for all people.

What makes you a good fit?

I have a great passion for getting people to understand that they are loved and accepted for who they are by Christ and his followers, experience with very different parts of our society, and I love it when people have questions that I don't have the answers to. Having to study, search the Bible and what others have written about it so that I can then get back to the person and explain it to them is something that gives me a lot of satisfaction.

What excites you about this role?

I have always liked what David did, doing the groundwork for building the temple so that his son could enjoy a time of peace and actually building up the great temple. This is what I want to do too, making sure that our future Christians have the best chances to serve God in ways that we might not see the rewards of ourselves, but will be a great blessing to those around them.

What are the challenges?

Time — I always feel like there is more that I could do or that each week could do with a couple more days so that we can build our relationships faster. But it also teaches me to focus on God and trust in him, that he does the work. I only have to follow and do what he leads me to do.

What are some core values that guide your life and influence your approach to ministry?

In our weakness God brings strength. Whenever we feel like we cannot do something that he puts in our hearts we are given the opportunity to put more of our faith in him.



Maarten DeMoi

Get to Know Maarten



Maarten and his wife, Roanne

1.

What is something people don't know about you?

I struggle with ADHD paired with something that tires me out quickly. But it has given me an even greater opportunity to worship God and show his strengths in my weaknesses. Some of the things he has asked me to do should have been impossible, but with him they were not.

2.

What else is important for our readers to know?

When in the Netherlands and nearby our Tiel congregation, do visit and contact me. I'd love the opportunity to get to know more of our GCI brothers and sisters!

3.

Can you share a memorable experience or testimony from your time in this role?

I had a desire to organize an entire church service with our youth, but I was a little bit anxious that our teenagers wouldn't want to participate or that it wouldn't excite them at all. But everyone was immediately on board and the ideas and positivity started flowing. The teenagers and pre-teens all wanted to play a role. Our youth opened the service, chose the worship team, delivered part of the sermon, and handled the sound. We even created a stop motion movie together about Daniel in the lion's den. And it was amazing!



Maarten's favourite place to relax and pray

"In our weakness God brings strength. Whenever we feel like we cannot do something that he puts in our hearts we are given the opportunity to put more of our faith in him."



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