



## 2020 PASTOR PROFILE

**Pastor Search Objective:** Our congregation needs a pastor who is full of love for God and for people, recognizing that all people, irrespective of their background or station in life, are God's image-bearers, valuable and worthy of personal investment. Following the example of our Lord, the pastor ought to have particular concern and compassion for the downtrodden and the broken-hearted. These same attitudes should be pervasive in the pastor's ministry of God's Word as he delivers expository sermons, centered on exegetically teaching God's Word and faithfully applying its message to life in our modern context, all for the purpose of growing each individual hearer and the congregation as a whole in Christ-likeness. The pastor's love for God's Word should be apparent in his study, in his inquisitiveness, in his meditation, and in preaching that is personally challenging and authentically passionate—not perfunctory preaching out of obligation. We believe in the complete truthfulness and ultimate authority of Scripture, and we trust that when God's Word is rightly and lovingly explained in the power of the Holy Spirit, it will change hearts and impact minds. So, we trust that the faithful unfolding of God's Word in preaching will grow our church in depth of understanding, in purity, in unity, in love for one another, and even numerically as our members become better ambassadors for Christ. Our congregation also needs a pastor who shepherds God's people, not just corporately from the pulpit, but also in personal service to families and individuals, especially in times of particular need.

**Preaching:** Preaches the whole counsel of God with an emphasis on exegesis and exposition, with the ability to relate every sermon to the gospel of Jesus Christ, who is the focus of divine revelation.

**Pastoral Care:** Provides protective care for the entire church family by watching over God's flock. Nourishes the people through the ministry of God's Word. Vigilantly guards the church against false teaching. Promotes spiritual unity and love among the people through instruction and by example. Gives biblical counsel, advice, and guidance in all circumstances.

**Vision and Leadership:** Evaluates the particular strengths, gifts, and limitations of our church, and develops a vision for how God might use our church to advance his kingdom. Then, unites all of the church's resources, ministries, and efforts in the direction of that vision. Able to provide this overall direction, while encouraging members to take ownership of particular ministry tasks.

**Discipleship:** Recognizes that the Christian life is a life of learning. Agrees essentially with the Baptist Faith & Message of 2000 and ensures that teaching aligns with it, while recognizing Scripture alone as the ultimate authority. Supports the church's teaching ministries in order to grow believers in maturity and to equip the saints for evangelism and service.

**Outreach:** Is committed to the spread of the gospel throughout the community, within Texas, across the nation, and to the end of the earth. Develops evangelism as a way of life among our people. Partners with churches of like faith in supporting North American and international missions. Recognizes God's sovereignty and initiative in the salvation of sinners, while maintaining every individual's responsibility to share the gospel.

**Fellowship:** Actively encourages the development of loving relationships among the people. Promotes events and activities that allow such relationships to flourish.

**Worship:** Leads the congregation in biblical corporate worship. Preaches and teaches with appropriate stress on a life lived as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, full of moment-by-moment gratitude and praise.

**Prayer:** Encourages a lifestyle of prayer. Recognizes prayer as the engine that drives the church forward. Leads by example in both public and private prayer.