

Opportunity Profile

Pastor of Worship and Connections



BETHELCHURCH



- Bethel Church



Bethel Church is a Conservative Baptist Church. We are a Bible teaching church, theologically conservative with a contemporary worship and ministry style. Bethel has been meeting in the Alaskan interior for almost 60 years and currently has about 600 people attending each week.

We maintain an affiliation with CB Northwest. This is a voluntary associations of churches that agree to live in covenant community. CB

Northwest may offer advice and recommendations, but do not have any authority or oversight of Bethel Church.

We also seek to cooperate with other churches of like faith and practice for the purposes of helping people to trust, follow, and serve Jesus Christ.



- Mission

The **mission** of this church is to lead people to a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Our **vision** is a caring community that equips the whole family to follow Jesus.

The priorities of ministry of this church flow from the vision of God's glory revealed in Jesus Christ. These are accomplished by:

- Growing stronger through worship;
- Growing larger through outreach;
- Growing deeper through discipleship;
- Growing together through relationships.



- History

In 1959 Eight people met on November 19 to discuss the formation of a church with Vernon Crouse, CBHMS missionary. They decided to begin a Sunday evening service. On December 10th they rented the Carpenter's Union Hall on 5th Ave for \$15/ week. If attendance reached 35-40 they agreed to increase the rent to \$100/month. In response to a sermon on Bethel, "The House of God", they decided to call themselves Bethel Baptist Church. The church moved to the current location on Farmers Loop in 1974 where it continued to grow steadily. When Associate Pastor Keith Payne was brought in in 1992 the attendance was over 165 per week. In 2008, after serving as Senior Pastor for 22 years, Pastor Paul Holmes, initiated a transition with Associate Pastor, Pastor Eric Johns, where they switched job responsibilities. After a year Eric Johns became our Senior Pastor and continues to lead Bethel Church. Our congregation has grown to an average of 600 attendees per week.

- Expansion

Bethel has been blessed in that God fills up any additions we have made to the church with people. Bethel Church looked at expansion in 1999 and in 2007 because of our increasing numbers. In 2011 attendance again began to increase so we appointed another panel to study the problem of space. That panel conclusion was that we needed to build. This team looked at all of the alternatives and their specific recommendation given was to build a worship space that would seat between 450-500 people on our current property. The membership asked that an independent consulting firm be hired to evaluate Bethel's need. In December of 2012 Living Stones Associates was hired to take a holistic look at Bethel and give us advice in moving forward. They evaluated Bethel in 4 different areas, facility, ministry, staffing and finances. The evaluation concluded we were out of room in 3 areas, Sunday worship space, classroom space and foyer space. Their recommendation was to build.

A facility task force was formed and in February of 2014 the Bethel Church membership voted to implement a facility master plan on the recommendations of the Facility Task Force.

July 2014 Bethel hired Tim Avery from Kardia Consulting to help us raise the funds for expanding our church and ministries. Bethel raised 1.6 million dollars and is hoping to break ground on an addition to our current building in 2019.

- Bethel Staff

Senior Pastor



Eric grew up in a loving missionary family and came to know Christ as a young boy. He graduated from Biola University in 1998, married Amy in '99, and enjoyed working with youth for four years in Eastern WA. Eric and Amy moved to Fairbanks, Alaska in the summer of 2002 and now have 3 kids: Aiden, Elinor, and Augustine. Eric and Amy are passionate about discipleship, family, and the word of God. Eric also enjoys motorcycles, hunting, basketball, cross country skiing, reading, and spending time with his wife and kids.

Associate Pastor of Christian Education



Adam was born in the mid-west but spent his teen years on the east coast. He heard the gospel from many people over many years, but it didn't sink in until he heard it from a "crazy" street preacher during his time at college. He surrendered his life to Christ in 1990.

Through and after college, he had the honor of working with a variety of missions groups, spending three years teaching English in Japan and four and a half years distributing Christian media to countries in west Africa and eastern Europe while living in the UK.

Eventually God led him back to the US - to sunny southern California where he met his lovely and godly wife, Holly. He received his Masters of Divinity degree from Talbot School of Theology in 2008.

Adam and Holly moved to Fairbanks in 2009, where they have been happily living with their two healthy and energetic daughters.

Associate Pastor of Youth



Mark has spent most of his life living in Fairbanks, Alaska since he moved up here when he was 4. After leaving to attend Western Baptist College for a few years, Mark returned with his wife Diana to make Fairbanks their home. He has been helping with the youth group at Bethel since 2005 and since then has transitioned from volunteer to intern to Youth Pastor. It has been incredible to see God's plan unfold as he now leads the same youth group he was once a student in.

Mark and Diana have two high energy little girls that keep their lives busy and entertaining. Mark is a passionate sports fan and an avid indoorsman. He is a video game nerd at heart. When he can find the time Mark enjoys training for and competing in marathons and triathlons.

- Bethel Staff *Continued*



Office Manager

Sherina was born in Fairbanks and has lived here all of her life. She was saved in Sunday School when she was 4 and rededicated her life to Jesus in 2005. She has been married to her best friend and husband Keith for over 30 years and they have two adult kids, Jenya and Drew. Her interests include: hockey, praise dance, reading and spending time with family.



Office Assistant

Laura grew up in Colorado and moved to Fairbanks in 2010 as a teen. She was saved as a small child but rededicated her life to Christ in 2011. She was a part of Bethel's Youth Group throughout her high school years, where she met her husband Lincoln. She enjoys spending time with her family, baking, doing crafts and cheering on the Denver Broncos and the Golden State Warriors.



Children's Ministry Director

Kathy is excited to be serving the children and Sunday School teachers at Bethel Church as she has been blessed to have had a career serving teachers and children most of her life. She has worked as an Education Director and Researcher for Alaska Pacific University, and the University of Alaska, where she earned her Ph.D. in Cross-Cultural Education. She and her husband Mark have two children: Rosalee and Noelle. In her spare time, Kathy trains dogs as companion animals, and works on their "tricks" titles. She loves to read Christian historical fiction, and has been the lead singer in gospel folk and praise bands.



AWANA Commander

Amber grew up in Southern California, and accepted Christ as her savior as a child. After moving to Idaho to attend college, she met Dale. They have lived in many places around the globe during Dale's Army career. When the Army moved them to Fairbanks in 2011, they decided to make the area their home. They have 2 daughters, Madison and Erin. Amber loves biking, hiking, crocheting, and spending time with her family.



Nursery Director

Kevin grew up as a Missionary kid in the jungles of Papua New Guinea and was saved at a young age. He moved back to the states and attended college in Idaho and Arizona graduating with a chemical engineering degree in 2000. He joined the Navy after graduation and served for 5 years aboard a US Submarine moving up and down the east coast. In 2007 he moved to DC to work for the government and met Christa as she started her career in Medicine with the Army. They married shortly afterward and the Army has moved them to New Jersey, Washington State and now Alaska.

They have 3 children; Madelyn, Rosalie, and most recently Tobias. In Washington, he became highly involved in the children's ministries, taking over for the Nursery Director, as well as a main leader in their AWANA and Summer Day camp programs.

- Fairbanks, Alaska



Fairbanks was founded in 1901. Captain E.T. Barnette was a passenger on a steamboat that ran aground in the area and some local gold prospectors convinced him to start a trading post there. One of the miners, Felix Pedro, discovered gold a year later and started the Fairbanks Gold Rush. Over the years Fairbanks has become the logistical hub for the entire interior of Alaska.

Fairbanks is the largest population center in the interior of Alaska, and the second largest in the state. The City of Fairbanks has a population of approximately 32,000 and is the borough seat for the Fairbanks North Star Borough with a population of approximately 100,000. Major components of our population include the military personnel stationed at Fort Wainwright Army Post and Eielson Air Force Base as well as the students and staff of the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Fairbanks has all of the modern conveniences, including high speed internet, cell phone coverage from several major providers, and cable and dish television. We have competitive chain grocery stores (Fred Meyer, Safeway, Walmart, Costco) and a variety of restaurants and stores such



as REI, Lowes, Home Depot and Barnes & Noble. Alaska has the lowest taxes in the U.S. and is one of a handful of states without a statewide sales tax or income tax.

- History

The weather in Fairbanks can vary dramatically. Winter temperatures can be as cold as -60° F and summers often bring $+80^{\circ}$ F. These temperature extremes are primarily influenced by temperature inversions, daylight, and wind direction.



Because of the proximity to the Arctic Circle, in June and July the daylight lasts 21.5 hours and the nights are never dark. Conversely in the winter months of December and January, we will have days with less than 3 hours of sunlight. Annual precipitation averages 11.3 inches with the average snowfall of 68.8 inches. We have snow groundcover from the end of October until approximately the middle of April. Alaska's hunting and fishing are legendary.

The incredibly beautiful summers offer hiking, backpacking, canoeing, exploring, and fishing for grayling, pike, trout, char and all five species of salmon. August and September bring hunting for moose, caribou, grizzly, Dall sheep, and black bear. The onset of winter brings other sports such as cross-country skiing, snowboarding, downhill skiing, snow machining, dog mushing, trapping, ice fishing, and Aurora watching. What makes Alaska most unique, however, is the people. Fairbanks is a hardy, multi-ethnic and international community with an independent bent and a pioneer spirit. Caucasian, African-American, Eskimo, Athabaskan Indian and a smattering of Pacific Rim nationalities make up our area. We are a friendly people who cherish the uniqueness and freedom that Alaska offers. We love the land for its vastness, beauty, animals, and especially its people.



- Doctrinal Statement

GOD

There is one God who is the Creator and Ruler of all creation who has eternally existed in three co-eternal, co-equal persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Each is distinct in person and function, but one in essence.

GOD THE FATHER

We believe in God the Father: one in essence with the Son and the Spirit. He is an infinite, personal Spirit, perfect in all His attributes. He is the Creator, Sustainer, and sovereign Ruler of all things through His Son Jesus Christ.

JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ is both the Son of God, equal with the Father, and the virgin-born Son of Man. He led a sinless life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for our sins by dying upon a cross. He rose three days later to demonstrate His power over sin and death and as a declaration that He truly was the Son of God. He ascended to heaven's glory and will return again someday to Earth to establish His earthly kingdom and reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is God, equal to the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit is present in the world to make us aware of our need for Jesus Christ. He comes to live within those who have placed their trust in Jesus the moment they believe and seals their eternal destiny. He provides the Christian with power for daily living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. He also gifts every believer for service within the Church. As Christians we seek to live under His control daily.

THE BIBLE

We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, the 66 books of the Protestant Canon, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

- Doctrinal Statement *Continued*

PEOPLE

People are the supreme object of God's creation created in the image of God. We were created to enjoy fellowship with God and fulfill God's will on earth. By an act of rebellion against the express will of God, the original pair became "infected" by sin, which resulted in all mankind inheriting a fallen nature. This inward inclination toward sin which always leads to acts of rebellion has alienated us from God, resulting in divine condemnation, spiritual death, and physical decay.

SALVATION

Salvation is the gift of God given to those who have placed their trust in Christ. Salvation is a gift because there is nothing we can do to earn it. No religious effort or good work ever qualifies us to receive salvation. Due to our inward inclination and actual acts of rebellion, we are deserving of God's judgment. But God the Father, because of his grace and mercy, sent God the Son to be the sacrifice for our sins by suffering and dying in our place. Those who trust in Christ are declared "not guilty" because their penalty for sin has been paid, and they become children of God.

THE CHURCH

Jesus Christ is the head of the Church, His body, which is composed of all people who have placed their trust in Christ. We believe that this body expresses itself in local assemblies in which believers are in a covenant relationship. The Scriptures tell us to come together for edification, fellowship, worship, and prayer. The purpose of the Church is to make disciples of all people, always bearing witness to the gospel in word and deed.

THE FUTURE

Jesus will someday return bodily, personally, and visibly to earth to establish his rule and reign, the time known only to the Father. At the end of Christ's 1,000 year reign, all those who have ever existed will be judged. Those who have placed their trust in Christ will spend eternity in the presence of God. Those who have rejected Christ's offer of forgiveness will suffer eternal conscious punishment.

• Job Description

JOB DESCRIPTION

Title: Associate Pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Fairbanks, Alaska

Focus: Worship and connections

Purpose: To help implement the biblical mission of this church primarily through general shepherding, leading worship and overseeing the connections ministry.

Responsibilities

1. Shepherding

- a. Participating in the duties of the pastoral staff which include but are not limited to: preaching, counseling, weddings, and funerals
- b. Serving as an elder in all capacities as detailed in the church By-laws

2. Leading the worship ministry

- a. Collaborating with other leaders to carry out the overall vision of corporate worship at the church
- b. Weekly planning of service (selecting songs, arrangements, and ordering of the service)
- c. Recruiting, training, organizing and shepherding the worship team and volunteers
- d. Overseeing all areas of production (audio, light, service management) to facilitate an experience of worship
- e. Leading worship for special events (Good Friday, Easter, Christmas Eve, etc)

3. Overseeing the connections ministry

- a. Working with the Welcome Coordinator to ensure guests are warmly welcomed and assisted in finding a seat and navigating the church
- b. Overseeing the connections strategy of the church (helping people move from attending to belonging)
- c. Helping to create a warm welcoming atmosphere on Sunday mornings

4. Managing selected church budget line items which have been jointly agreed upon with the Business Board

• Job Description *Continued*

Accountability

The Associate Pastor is primarily accountable to the Senior Pastor, secondarily to the Elder Board and ultimately to the membership as expressed in the By-laws.

Qualifications

1. He shall be a Christian who demonstrates a personal relationship with Jesus Christ through worship, prayer, Bible reading, application of the Word, and looks for opportunities to share his faith.
2. He shall fulfill the requirements of 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1.
3. He shall be a model of Christ-likeness in his marriage and other personal relationships.
4. He must agree with this church's doctrinal statement.
5. He must be willing to work in compliance with the Employee Handbook.
6. He must have a Bachelor's degree from an accredited Bible college or equivalent ministry experience.
7. He must be capable of shepherding a large congregation.
8. He must demonstrate musical skill and theological discernment
9. He must have a proven track-record of ministry.
10. He must be able to shepherd people from the platform as we worship.
11. He must demonstrate excellent verbal communication skills.
12. He must have a proven ability to work with and maintain positive, loyal relationships with those inside and outside the church.

Time Expectations

1. He shall be present on Sundays unless sick, on vacation or on assignment for the church.
2. He shall maintain regular office hours.
3. He will work approximately 40-50 hours per week.