



Overview

First Baptist Church (FBC) of Downers Grove, IL is eager to call an experienced, enthusiastic and empowering Lead Pastor to shepherd the work of this historic church as they engage a new season of ministry.

The Big Idea



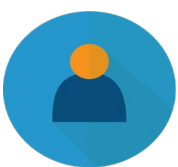
After the retirement of their Lead Pastor, FBC is launching a new chapter in their ministry. This is a church that was started in 1851 and has endured many challenges in ministry and has experienced the joys and trials of a growing nation. Despite this, the church remains a steadfast rock in an ever-changing society. FBC is strong organizationally, and the people share a sweet fellowship with one another. They have an evident desire to reach the community with the gospel of Jesus Christ, but admit they need more effective ways to do so. The staff is committed to the work of the church and long for someone to bring greater alignment in their ministry efforts. Downers Grove Christian School (DGCS) provides a timely educational service to the community and presents a wonderful opportunity to reach young families as well. There are many positive attributes, both internally and externally, that makes this a great opportunity for a new pastor. The congregation recognizes the need for a strategic, directional leader for this next season of ministry.

The Church



FBC is an independent Baptist church of around 180 worshipers who meet for Sunday school at 9 a.m. and then convene for worship at 10:30 a.m. The worship is a thoughtful blend of contemporary and historically rich worship led by a team of singers and musicians. The people experience a steady and competent diet of spiritually rich expository preaching. The church is family friendly and seeks new and innovative ways to minister to children and youth.

The Candidate



The right candidate for FBC will be a confident, yet humble, servant leader who actively demonstrates an abiding, intimate and inspirational relationship with Jesus. The congregation will respond well to a pastor whose preaching provides rich Biblical content wrapped in a warm, energetic and humorous style. Relational and engaging, the right pastor will motivate and challenge people to apply their spiritual maturity and biblical knowledge in acts of love, outreach, and practical service to others. He will appreciate the historic nature of FBC and speak respectfully of all it has accomplished and endured the last 170+ years. At the same time, he will lead the congregation forward into their new ministry chapter, implementing change thoughtfully and collaboratively, and at a pace consistent with the people. It's important this pastor understand how to inspire people to serve in fresh ways. They seek a confident, godly leader to love them, listen to them, teach them, and then paint a captivating picture of what God could do through them.

The Location



Located 22 miles west of Chicago, Downers Grove has a population of about 50,000 people. According to livability.com, Downers Grove is the 37th best place to live in the United States. The city, sometimes called the Village of Downers Grove, has a Hallmark-esk quality to it. The downtown is quaint and features numerous local boutiques and delicious dining options. Housing is affordable and good schools are plentiful. This city is a great place to call home.

The Qualifications



Clear alignment with the core [beliefs](#) of First Baptist Church; a theological master's degree is required with a Master of Divinity preferred; no less than ten years of full-time Lead Pastor or Campus Pastor ministry experience in a multi-staff setting with regular preaching opportunities and oversight of paid staff and volunteers in a church context of >250 attendees; ordination preferred; skilled and winsome communicator of the gospel who excels in Bible-based, expository preaching and teaching; ability to provide relationally strong shepherding to the Body; mature faith and wisdom that has been tested and proven through experience; an intimacy with Jesus that results in a fruitful personal walk with him.

Next Steps



Greta Barthelemy
NL Moore & Associates
greta@nlmoore.com
952.210.7414

For the Full Opportunity Profile:

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