

Solicitation for Pastor at Washington Plaza Baptist Church in Reston, Virginia

Open Period: May 1, 2015 – June 30, 2015

Church Profile/Introduction: WPBC is a small, diverse, ecumenical, welcoming and affirming Baptist church located in the original Village Center of Lake Anne in Reston, Virginia.

Position Info: Permanent Pastor

Apply: Washington Plaza Baptist Church Search Committee; PO Box 9251; Reston VA 20195-3151

Qualifications:

Education: All applicants must possess a Bachelor's Degree (any discipline) from an accredited college, and a Master of Divinity degree consisting of 80 hours or equivalent education from an accredited residential seminary or school of theology.

Experience: At least two years of pastoral/spiritual leadership experience in a congregational or specialized ministry setting within the endorsing body after formal ministerial preparation.

1. A demonstrated ability to develop and maintain programs and activities for enlarging the membership and the church's vision for ministry.
2. Demonstrated ability to communicate a comprehensive understanding of the Bible and Christian theology in terms relevant to people's lives and the world today.
3. Experience exhibiting keen sensibilities to other language, ethnic, and cultural group settings. Open support of LGBT community, including marriage.
4. A proven capability to create an atmosphere in which people feel accepted, included and cared for.
5. Experience providing by word and presence an empathetic understanding of, and concern for people in the routine and the joys of life as well as in the crises and transitions of life, providing assistance where appropriate and feasible.
6. Supporting the preaching ministry with time for preparation and reflection on the Word, and commitment to listen for the Word's power and its implications for individuals, the church, the community and the world.
7. A demonstrated ability to become aware of social justice issues in the community and the world and to discover ways to act toward mitigating or eliminating injustice.
8. Experience creating opportunities for individuals and groups to understand and enhance the spiritual dimensions of their lives.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

1. Assist the church in working toward priority goals, and motivate members to work actively in the life of the church. This includes the developmental tasks as defined by American Baptist Churches USA.
2. Plan and lead Sunday worship, including the celebration of Lent, Easter, Christmas, communion, baptisms, weddings and funerals.
3. Deliver biblically grounded sermons relevant to the congregation.
4. Provide pastoral care by visiting hospitalized and homebound congregants as needed.
5. Perform administrative duties, work with other church staff to provide a unified, harmonious program, and assist in congregational communication (newsletter, bulletin, correspondence, minutes, and personal contacts).
6. Serve as ex-officio member of Church Council and attend congregational and ministry meetings as needed.
7. Arrange for substitute ministry help during absences.
8. Actively and visibly support the church's stewardship program.
9. Represent the church at public and Baptist and association meetings as needed.

The applicant must have an ***ecclesiastical endorsement*** that attests to his or her suitability for ministry. It should indicate support for the applicant's candidacy and provide a clear assurance statement that the he or she has no present or past legal or moral barrier to congregational ministry.