

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH  
Ottawa, IL

Grace Baptist Church is seeking a full-time Pastor who is committed to preaching the Word of God and shepherding the Body of Christ.

**Pastor Qualifications**

- ❖ Fulfill Scriptural qualifications for an elder as stated in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9
- ❖ Strong agreement with our [Doctrinal Statement](#)
- ❖ Education: Some seminary training is desired but is not required
- ❖ Experience: 5+ years of ministry experience, preferred
- ❖ Skills:
  - Effective Preacher/Communicator – emphasis on teaching the congregation
  - One who can implement a strong vision/strategy
- ❖ Leadership Attributes:
  - Sincere spiritual leader
  - Expertise in Biblical/theological matters
  - Good communicator/listener-communicate faith and beliefs through inspirational speaking skills based on Scripture
- ❖ Pastoral Style: A good balance between a relational and operational pastor is a must
- ❖ Communication: Teaching needs to focus on strong Biblical knowledge/references, spiritual nourishment, and application to everyday life. The pastor needs to have solid day-to-day communication skills with the staff and congregation.
- ❖ Personal Characteristics:
  - Sound theology with a focus on spiritual discipline
  - Devotion to prayer
  - Creative personality & charisma
  - Solid character and shows compassion
  - A visionary that uses collaborative skills to bring ideas to fruition
  - Has a heart of a servant and a lifelong learner
- ❖ Pastor Responsibilities:
  - Studies Bible on daily basis and continues to develop Biblical and theological skills
  - Provide strong spiritual support and witness to members
  - Commitment to ministries of the church
  - Be able to balance church/ministry obligations and spending quality time with family
  - Delegate administration, office work, and civic/community affairs to prioritize needs in other areas

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## **Our Church**

Grace Baptist is an independent, Bible-believing Baptist Church; we believe in the literal, 6-day creation and in the pre-trib rapture. Our worship service consists of a blend of contemporary songs and hymns led by a praise team. People dress casually for the service. Twenty-five years ago, we had 190 regular attenders, but today, we are down to 35-50 attenders. At one point we had Sunday School and AWANA as children's ministries, and we hope to bring them back soon. We are very much hopeful that the Lord will provide us with a growth in numbers to allow us to add back these programs. Although we feel the need to grow in numbers, we believe it is even more important that we grow spiritually. We trust that God will bless our church if we have the right focus.

As a result of our desire to grow as the Body of Christ, we feel the Lord may be leading us towards a different Vision, Purpose, and Strategy than we have been using the past several years. The following statements reflect **a shift from a focus on people to Christ**. Although our new pastor will have the flexibility to revise these statements, we are hopeful he will have the heart to have a similar Vision, Purpose, Mission, and Strategy as those detailed as "Future" below:

### Current Vision

To be a center for Christian discovery, development, and experience. (Acts 2:41-47)

### Future Vision

We, the Body and Bride of Christ at Grace Baptist Church, look to our Heavenly Father to give us a passion to gather together to edify one another unto good works, to learn the truth of God's Word, and to worship to the glory of God-so that when we go into the lost and dying world we will display the fruits of His Spirit, will have compassion and be well equipped to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. (John 17:13-23)

### Current Purpose

To lead people to a life of faith in Christ and then on the journey to full devotion, one life at a time. (Matthew 28:19-20)

### Future Purpose

To bring glory and honor to our Lord Jesus Christ through the devotion of sound teaching, prayer, fellowship, breaking of bread, and to be prepared to proclaim the gospel in our community. (Acts 2:42, 1 Peter 3:15)

### Current Mission

To "Live, Share and Love Jesus"

### Future Mission

To "Love, Serve, and Share Jesus"

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Current Strategy

To be “A Church That Unchurched People Love to Attend”

Future Strategy

To glorify Christ, build up the saints, and make disciples.

**Our Community**

Ottawa, Illinois, the “Friendly City,” is located about 80 miles southwest of Chicago. Ottawa has a population of 18,000 and is known for its murals, seasonal markets/festivals, and good schools. Starved Rock State Park is a nearby hiking destination for city dwellers. The Illinois and Fox rivers meet in the middle of our town. Ottawa is also rich in history, being the site of the first Lincoln-Douglas debate in 1858 and participating in the underground railroad. The Reddick Mansion, one of the largest surviving homes to pre-date the Civil War, is in Ottawa.

**Detailed information about Grace Baptist Church and the pastor job position is available upon request.**

**Contact Information**

If you believe God may be calling you to pastor our church, please e-mail the following information to: [grace.baptist.pastor.search63@gmail.com](mailto:grace.baptist.pastor.search63@gmail.com)

- Letter of interest
- Resume
- Link to 2 recent video or audio sermons
- Dropbox, google drive, Facebook, or YouTube are options
- References (2-3)
- Other pertinent information