

Shoaff Park Baptist Church

6651 St. Joe Road

Fort Wayne, IN 46835

History and Background

Shoaff Park Baptist Church was the first of thirteen Baptist church planting efforts by the Immanuel Baptist Church of Fort Wayne, Indiana in 1956. The Church was formally organized and adopted its constitution on April 3, 1957 with 23 charter members from a nucleus of eight families. The church was accepted into the Indiana Fellowship of Regular Baptist Churches (IFRBC) in September 1957. The three and one half acres on St. Joe Road was purchased in July of 1957. The first building was erected that same year, followed by a larger auditorium and classrooms in 1966. On October 9, 1995 the church made its final mortgage payment.

Over the course of these many years, the church has seen cycles of growth and decline for various reasons. 2006-2008 was the longest period without a senior pastor. During this time, the attendance plummeted, and the church withdrew from associating with the GARBC and IFRBC to become an independent fundamental Baptist church.

In God's providence, Shoaff Park Baptist Church was led to call Pastor Kenneth R. Jackson as senior pastor in 2008, who has faithfully ministered here for these past fourteen years until he retired from the church to join the ministry of Gospel Fellowship Association (GFA) on August 1, 2022.

Today the congregation has fifty adult members along with several regular attendees, the majority being senior citizens. Under Pastor Jackson's leadership, the church has embraced a traditional worship style with Biblical preaching (KJV preferred). Currently, the church has six deacons who are elected by the congregation annually. Financially, the church has met its budget over the past ten years and is not indebted. Sunday School & Adult Bible Study meet Sundays at 9:30 am; Worship Service at 10:30am; Wednesday night Family Night/Prayer at 6:30pm. The church also has ministry for Widows, Senior Citizens, Youth and King's Kids Club.

www.shoaffparkbaptist.org

www.facebook.com/shoaffparkbaptist/

Pastor/Shepherd Job Description

Shoaff Park Baptist Church (SPBC) is seeking a senior pastor to continue the ministry of the church in Ft Wayne, Indiana. In addition to the biblical qualifications of a pastor/elder (1 Tim.3; Titus 1), Scripture gives further insight into the life and ministry of a pastor. We desire a man who not only loves the Lord Jesus Christ, but is continuing to grow in His love, faith, and

obedience to Christ. This would imply a strong devotional life both for him personally and for his family. He should encourage our congregation to follow him as He follows Christ, modeling the Christian life.

Furthermore, we desire a pastor who is a shepherd (1 Pet. 5:1-3). One who is willing to encourage, exhort, counsel, admonish and sympathize. This may involve visits to our elderly members who are home-bound or in assisted-care facilities; as well as hospital visits to those members suffering ill health. It may also require confrontation with those members who are displaying ungodly behavior.

Hearing the preaching and teaching of the Word God is a regular part of congregational life at SPBC. We desire a pastor who is a true student of the Word, able to effectively communicate God's Word to us while showing how it is applicable. (1 Tim. 4:13-16; 2 Tim. 2:2; 4:2) He needs to be equipping us (Eph.4:11-16) for life as well as to help in the ministry. Our pastor needs to do the work of an evangelist as well as help us do the same. He also needs to be a man of prayer and endeavor to lead us likewise.

Shepherding and pastoring our congregation also implies a certain amount of leadership skills. We are a body, a congregation, a family. We are an organized and mature congregation but also need direction, especially in regards to our future sustainability.

While this flock needs shepherding, we also desire growth. There is much potential for that here in Fort Wayne, despite being a "city of churches". SPBC is situated close to the Purdue-Fort Wayne and IVY Tech campuses. Fort Wayne is also an approved immigrant & refugee destination with a large population of international people. Our own congregation is minimally multi-ethnic, but we are open to more ethnic diversity.

The congregation of SPBC is praying for you, a possible pastoral candidate. We trust that you will pray for us as well.

A recent church survey listed following characteristics that a pastoral candidate should possess:

- Strong in evangelism and people skills
- Expository, topical and evangelistic preaching styles
- Seminary degree
- Command of the scriptures and able to exhort believers in Godliness
- Ministry experience of 11-15+ years
- Vision for church growth

According to the survey, the church's key strengths are friendliness, Bible believing, music and faithful giving.

Shoaff Park Baptist Church, Fort Wayne, IN is seeking a senior pastor beginning August 1, 2022. Attached is a brief profile of our church. Those interested may contact either Randy Hartleroad rnhart@aol.com or Kenneth Cole kcole@abwe.cc