

## **ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH**

2387 Morse Ave  
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076  
(908) 232-6972

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**Web site:** <http://www.stjohnsscotchplains.org>

Deacon Odell Chisolm, Chair - Deacon Board  
Trustee Lillian Bullock, Chair - Board of Trustees  
Rev. Dr. Evans L. Spagner, Interim Pastor

### **PASTORAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

St. John's Baptist Church (SJBC) of Scotch Plains, New Jersey prayerfully seeks a full-time senior pastor. The candidate shall be called to serve as the chief under-shepherd and overseer of this local church, feeding, leading and nurturing the sheep. This person's main responsibilities will be to communicate God's Word, minister to the spiritual needs and provide biblical leadership for the church. The person ultimately called to serve as the spiritual leader of the congregation will possess many of the qualities listed in I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. The SJBC is trusting God to fulfill the prophetic promise expressed in Jeremiah 3:15, "And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding."

The candidate, a baptized believer in Jesus Christ, will have the talent and capacity to fulfill the spiritual needs of the congregation through pastoral care and counseling, visitations, prayer, conducting weddings and funerals and administering the Ordinances of the Church. The ideal candidate will be a strong visionary leader that is able to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, teach sound Baptist Doctrine, promote global missions, and direct Christian growth and development.

The St. John's Baptist Church has been in existence for one hundred and seven years. The active membership is approximately 400 and there are twenty active ministries. The selected individual is expected to possess and use appropriate skills such as proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ as a central element of the corporate worship experience, teaching the Word of God to transform lives, and promoting Christian discipleship to facilitate maturational growth of the congregation.

Learn more about St. John's Baptist Church on our website listed above.

### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

Priority consideration will be given to candidates that currently possess a Master's of Divinity Degree from an accredited seminary. Candidates should have five (5) or more years of pastoral experience at a church of comparable size. Candidates must be knowledgeable of Baptist Doctrine, licensed and ordained to the Gospel Ministry by creditable religious organizations.

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### **Responsibilities/Duties include but are not limited to:**

- Provide leadership and vision for the church. Direct plans for ministry and church growth; develop and fine-tune the church structure based on the Team philosophy of ministry, informed by Ephesians 4. An Ephesians Four Pastor is a steward of the gifts, talents and abilities of those entrusted to the shepherd's care.
- Cast a vision that reflects strong, creative and prophetic leadership. Motivate, equip and nurture the people of the church through example, preaching and teaching God's Word and spiritual counseling.
- Oversee pastoral staff. Lead full-time staff, associate ministers, lay leaders and a host of volunteers in every area of ministry. Leverage executive partnership with the Joint Board and the congregation to provide leadership in planning, organizing, and coordinating programs in discipleship and ministry based on biblical mandates.
- Serve as primary preacher for worship services. Officiate at weddings, funerals, and on other sacred ceremonial occasions. Perform sacraments of Communion and baptism.
- Oversee church discipline and manage conflict in the church. Seek to reconcile relationships and promote unity within the church.
- Champion and participate in evangelism efforts through preaching and giving invitations during worship services, revival, special services, visitations and other outreach ministry initiatives.
- Design and deploy a pastoral care ministry process to contact/visit hospitalized or grieving church members. Provide premarital counseling, counseling regarding salvation and spiritual issues, and other counseling for church members. Educate the congregation to appreciate the significance of discipline as it relates to prayer and Bible study.

### **Required Documents** - All qualified candidates must submit an application packet consisting of the following information:

- A completed application and questionnaire
- Copy of diploma[s], degree[s], certificate of license to the Gospel Ministry, certificate of ordination, and other relevant credentials
- A recent 5X7 color photograph
- A DVD containing 2 Sermons and 2 Bible Class teachings.
- A statement of Faith and Vision for St. John's Baptist Church (1-2 pages)

**Interested applicants must request an application and questionnaire via e-mail by submitting a letter of interest and a resume. The Pulpit Committee will acknowledge receipt of your application.**

**Final candidates must consent to a reference check, a full background check including criminal history, a drug test and a credit check. These inquiries will be performed by an outside agency for complete confidentiality. All information will be treated as confidential and for Official Use Only.**

*Please do not contact any member of the Pulpit Committee. Any candidate who contacts a member of the Pulpit Committee seeking information or favoritism will be automatically disqualified.*

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