



Pastor Vacancy Announcement

Opening date: August 17, 2015

Closing date: September 18, 2015

Bell Grove M.B. Church
1301 B.B. King Road
Indianola, MS 38751

Bell Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Indianola, Mississippi, prayerfully invites application for the position of Pastor. Officially organized in 1863, the church is now in its 147th year of service in the Indianola community. Bell Grove is the *mother church* of Sunflower County, and for a long time was the only Black church in Indianola. We are a moderate-sized congregation with great potential for spiritual and physical growth. The committee seeks a Pastor with outstanding pulpit strength to present the gospel message effectively. Progressive, visionary leadership will help our church to continue to fulfill its missionary role in the broader community and to grow our ranks, especially among youth and young adults.

Bell Grove is seeking a visionary, spiritual leader who is committed to Christian service who will be committed to teaching Biblical doctrine to all age groups- especially youths, who adheres to exceptional standards of Christian character that is aligned with the scriptures of 1 Timothy 3:2-7 and Titus 1, and who demonstrates exemplary ethics and integrity. The candidate must have a clear vision for the church that outlines short and long term goals for membership growth and retention. The candidate must have the ability to promote a sense of love and commitment to Christian service in the church and community.

Qualifications/ Requirements include but are not limited to the following:

- Must have three or more years of pastoral experience (ex: senior pastor, assistant pastor, associate pastor)
- Must be a licensed and ordained Baptist minister
- Must have a Bachelor's degree(preferred) or two or more years of college from an accredited institution

- Must have some seminary training (a year of training preferred) but a minimum of twelve hours acceptable
- Must possess strong leadership skills to increase and retain the church membership
- Must be able to plan and conduct the worship services
- Must be willing to attend, support, and encourage members to attend the County (Association and Congress) and the State and National (Congress and Convention) for religious education and ideas that will enhance the church's ministries as well as establish other ministries
- Must communicate effectively (oral and written) with others
- Must have and be able to articulate a clear vision (plan) for the future of the church
- Must be willing to work cooperatively and collaboratively with the Deacons, Trustees, and all Ministries of the church
- Must demonstrate community involvement and foster a collaborative network with other Christian churches in the community as well as civic and social organizations to promote unity and commitment to Christian service in the church and community

Application Information

Prospective/interested candidates must submit a cover letter, copy of official (**sealed**) transcript, copy of Theological/ and or Divinity (Seminary) training (degree), copy of certificate of ordination, copy of ministerial license, current resume/vita, three signed letters of reference (**one from** pastor/clergy, **one from** lay person, and **one** personal), and summary of the applicant's vision for future growth of the church including short and long terms goals to increase church membership and retention. Summary must be typed, double-spaced, must include **specific strategies and timelines** for goals and church growth, and may **not exceed** more than two pages. **The Search Committee will not review any incomplete packets.**

All packets should be forwarded to: **Bell Grove Missionary Baptist Church**
Attention: Pastor Search Committee, Sammie M.
Crigler, Ed. D., Chairman
P. O. Box 691
Indianola, MS 38751

Final candidates must consent to a reference check, background check including criminal history, and credit check. All information will be treated confidentially.