

The Pastor Search Committee of Central Church (Central) sought the input of our church family to aid us in the search for our next senior pastor. With varied expectations and a wide array of opinions, a clear direction emerged as to the preferable character, experience, and training of God's man for our church.

Central is searching for a pastor who is

- Committed to the inerrancy and authority of the Bible.
- Agrees with the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 and will lead our church on the strong foundations of biblical authority.
- Being transformed by God's Word himself, as he leads our congregation to be transformed by God's Word as well.
- A text, and context-driven, expositor of the Bible.
- Connects with the congregation.
- Approachable and skilled in relationship building.
- A servant leader who others can follow and support.

He Will:

- Lead our staff with a team-based approach while stewarding well the authority of the office of senior pastor.
- Advance the disciple-making vision of the church in partnership with the pastors, lay-leaders, and church body.
- Champion the mission, vision, and core values of the church.
- Maintain healthy unity while leading the church through change.
- Supervise, empower, encourage, and develop pastors and staff.
- Create opportunities to motivate and train members, ministry leaders, and staff to identify and develop their spiritual gifts.
- Model faithful leadership in the home and allow that to overflow into his leadership at church.

Education and Experience include:

- A Masters in Divinity degree.
- Five or more years of pastor-level leadership experience, preferably in a church of over 500 in weekly attendance.
- Has proven preaching and communication skills.

Personal Criteria include:

- Male and Married - He must be in his first marriage, unless he's a widower.
- Family Oriented - Able to manage his home in the discipline and admonition of the Lord.
- He is a leader who shows unique love for his flock and is therefore grieved when they suffer.
- He has people skills and relational strengths.
- He is a man of faith who is experiencing ongoing renewal and growth.
- He is morally and ethically conservative, willing to be separate from the world and worldliness.
- He is honorable with a good reputation among other pastors and leaders.
- He has moral and sexual purity.
- He is doctrinally sound and faithful.
- He has an authentic prayer life, able to see answers to his petitions and intercessions.
- He is hospitable.
- He is sure of his call as "commissioned by God" to ministry.

Collaborative:

- He must be able to work with others within the body and the community.
- He has an open heart to all people, regardless of age, race, gender or spiritual condition.

Financially Sound:

- He is financially generous in giving, going above the tithe to give generously out of grace.
- He is not motivated by material things and salary.
- He is financially responsible.