

Senior Pastor Search Team
Ridgecrest Baptist Church, Springfield, Mo.
www.ridgecrestbaptist.org



Updated March 30, 2018

Ridgecrest Baptist Church Senior Pastor Position Information for Potential Applicants

Qualifications:

Meets the New Testament requirements of pastor/elder as outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1-17 and Titus 1:6-9.

Education: Masters of Divinity or equivalent required. Doctorate preferred.

Experience: Must have experience preaching and teaching the inerrant Word of God, determining the responsibilities and duties of church staff and in developing and communicating a vision. Experience in leading a mid- to large-sized church a plus.

Overview:

Ridgecrest Baptist Church is seeking a Senior Pastor to lead the church following the departure of previous Senior Pastor, Dr. Chad Grayson, in December of 2017. He had followed the retirement of Senior Pastor Hosea Bilyeu in August of 2014 after Pastor Bilyeu had served as Senior Pastor at Ridgecrest for 30 years.

It is the expressed belief of the Elders and Pastoral Search Team that the man selected to fill this role for our church should be a steadfast guardian of the Bible. He must have both heart and head knowledge of the Holy Bible. This man must be an excellent preacher and teacher. He must be an excellent communicator and listener. We prefer he be a proven leader of a healthy congregation. He must have exceptional people skills and be a strong leader and team builder. He must demonstrate strong support for church and congregational missions and orphans. He must also have exhibited a record of leading a church through individual and congregational prayer. He must support the Baptist Faith and Message. Ridgecrest is aligned with the Southern Baptist Convention, the Missouri Baptist Convention, and the Greene County Baptist Association.

We believe our next Senior Pastor will have an unrelenting passion for Jesus Christ and for the growth of His kingdom. We also believe he will have a vision that is inspired by the inerrant word of God. We believe our next Senior Pastor must place a high priority on his family and nurturing his wife and children. We are looking for a man whose priorities are: God, family, church, and community; in that order. Ultimately, the Pastor Search Team at Ridgecrest is searching for the man who God has called to lead our church.

The stated mission of Ridgecrest is “making Christ-centered disciples of all nations.” We accomplish this with a process we call “Trust, Grow, Share.” More information is available on our website at ridgecrestbaptist.org/about/mission.

Responsibilities:

The Senior Pastor is responsible for preaching/teaching the Word of God and overseeing the establishment of effective discipleship programs. He should emphasize personal and congregational prayer and be able to develop and communicate a vision for the Church. He must demonstrate a lifestyle of evangelism and be an advocate for members serving the church and others locally, nationally, and internationally, in ministries and missions. He must set a godly example, living his life in accordance with God's Word. He must be willing to lead in compliance with the constitution and bylaws of Ridgecrest (copy available upon request) and be a servant leader who can passionately lead pastoral and support teams in the church with a heart for discipleship and leadership development.

Overview of Ridgecrest:

Average Worship Attendance:

2012 — 1851

2013 — 1836

2014 — 1875

2015 — 1930

2016 — 2020

2017 — 1963

Ridgecrest is located in Springfield, Mo., and has a rich history and, we believe, an exciting future. The church began in 1981 when First Baptist Church of Springfield, Mo., purchased land along Republic Road for a church plant. A mission pastor was called in 1982 to serve Ridgecrest, and in June of 1984, Pastor Hosea Bilyeu preached his first sermon with 26 in attendance. The church experienced tremendous growth, numerous building campaigns, and many milestones, only a few of which are shared in this text. Ridgecrest launched other churches during this period including Village Church in Nixa, Evergreen Church in Springfield, Stonebridge Baptist Church in Nixa, and Ozarks Highlands Church in Ozark. On Easter Sunday in 2000, the current 1700-seat Worship Center and Preschool Place opened. In 2004, Ridgecrest purchased what had been the largest nightclub in Missouri — Remington's Entertainment Complex at 1655 W. Republic Road, Springfield — and committed to using the building for the community. The church has continued to experience steady spiritual and numerical growth and expanded mission efforts locally, in Missouri, in the U.S., and around the world, by adopting several unreached people groups. The church also emphasizes orphan care with its Defenders Orphan Care ministry. In 2016, the church purchased adjoining property for future expansion. In November of 2017, the church sold Remington's and paid off all church debt. Currently, Ridgecrest has three Sunday worship services: 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. (choir + orchestra) and 11 a.m. (modern + band).

Contact Information:

We request all application materials — a current résumé, references, a cover letter explaining your interest in this position and why you would be a good fit, (family photo optional) — be submitted by email or mail to Rosetta Akers (rakers@ridgecrestbaptist.org), Ridgecrest Baptist Church, 2210 W. Republic Road, Springfield, Mo. 65807. We gladly accept referrals of possible candidates from other pastors, teachers, seminaries or Baptist association leaders.