

Western Springs Baptist Church
Senior Pastor Position Description
Approved by the Church Board, July 13, 2023

Purpose

The Senior Pastor's primary responsibility under the authority of Scripture is the spiritual development and discipleship of the congregation by the leading of the Holy Spirit. He will place a high priority on biblical preaching and proclaim the Word without apology. The Senior Pastor will have a vibrant relationship with Jesus and a passion to discover Christ and display His transforming power. The Senior Pastor's focus will be as follows:

1. He will provide expositional biblical instruction that inspires and invigorates the congregation toward spiritual growth, goals and gospel proclamation.
2. He will be a godly example to the congregation in prayer, word, thought, and action.
3. He will lead the staff, the Church Board, and the Spiritual Leadership Council in setting a ministry vision and will lead the congregation in fulfilling it.
4. He will oversee pastoral care through spiritual oversight.
5. He will have a heart for the lost, leading the church in evangelizing others.

Responsibilities

A. Preacher

1. The Senior Pastor will be responsible for weekly preparation and delivery of sermons during most Sunday morning worship services.
2. The Senior Pastor will engage in deep study and consistent prayer.
3. The Senior Pastor will oversee the planning and leading of worship services in tandem with other staff.

B. Leader

1. The Senior Pastor will supervise, guide, and support the church staff.
2. The Senior Pastor will cast vision in developing and implementing plans which help move the congregation into a new life cycle by appraising, evaluating, planning, goal setting, motivating, modeling, and persevering.
3. The Senior Pastor will articulate and implement church-wide direction for worship, evangelism, growth, ministry, and fellowship.
4. The Senior Pastor will lead the church in deepening its global mission awareness and commitments through church programming and individual participation.
5. The Senior Pastor will assist the Moderator in leading the Church Board, Spiritual Leadership Council, Personnel Committee and other committees as needed.

C. ***Shepherd***

1. The Senior Pastor will nurture the body through discipling and teaching.
2. The Senior Pastor will oversee the development and empowerment of lay leaders.
3. The Senior Pastor will teach adult classes and Bible studies as needed.
4. The Senior Pastor will shepherd those considering membership through involvement in Gateway to Ministry membership classes.
5. The Senior Pastor will conduct and/or oversee pastoral care, including hospital visitation, counseling, crisis intervention, baptisms, child dedications, weddings, and funerals.

WSBC Bylaws, Article II, Section 4

“The Senior Pastor in conjunction with the Spiritual Leadership Council serves as the spiritual leader of the church and is responsible for the functions of ministry as taught in God’s word. He is subject to the authority of the membership. The Senior Pastor shall:

- a. In conjunction with the Church Board, SLC and committees of the church, implement and coordinate all plans and programs necessary to carry out the objectives and mission of the church, including the direction of the activities of the ministerial staff and church office personnel.
- b. Preach and teach the word of God; guide, advise, and provide spiritual leadership to the congregation.
- c. Be a member of the church and *ex-officio* (non-voting) member of all boards and committees of the church, able to call meetings of any board or committee or to call a congregational meeting.
- d. Conduct his life in keeping with the office he holds, and shall preach and teach in harmony with the scriptures, the Church Covenant and our Confession of Faith.”