



CHURCH PROFILE

2018



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Additional FBCSZ Search Committee members are Joann Brock, David Hose and Tammy Wiseman. Pastor Reginald Martin and Moderator, Jeff Taylor, also serve as advisors and support to the Search Committee.

INTRODUCTION:

Since 1821, the membership of First Baptist Church Zanesville has been working together for the Lord. This church is rich in history and tradition, yet we realize we must adapt our methods if we are to meet today's challenges. With help from the congregation, we have put together the following information to provide insight into who we are....where we have come from.....and where we envision God's leading us in the future.

We believe the guiding force behind any church is the PASTOR. That's why it is so important for us to match our needs with the gifts and talents God has given a potential leader for First Baptist Church of South Zanesville. We approach this task prayerfully, but with faith and assurance that God is preparing the person we need to take us into the future.

Zanesville, with a population of 25,000 (which includes the Village of South Zanesville) serves as Southeastern Ohio's cultural, shopping, medical and tourism center with direct access to I-70 and other major highways. With new industry moving into the area, we want to be ready to accommodate growth and provide a place where people of all ages can come to know Christ and grow in His love and grace. Our congregation has a warm, hospitable atmosphere and a welcoming spirit.

We hope the packet we have provided will be informative. We also pray it will convey our passion and perhaps shine a light on what we could do together in the Lord's service.



The Search Committee of First Baptist Church of South Zanesville, OH

WHAT WE BELIEVE *(from Article 111 of the FBCSZ Constitution)*

Having been led as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the Name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, we do now in the presence of God, angels and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this Church, in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its spirituality and prosperity; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk carefully in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and to serve as an example in our behavior; to avoid all tattling, gossiping, backbiting and excessive anger; to abstain from the promotion and use of illegal drugs and drunkenness, and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the Kingdom of our Savior.

We further engage to watch over each other in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, always ready for reconciliation and being mindful of the rules of our Savior, to seek it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place, we will as soon as possible unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's word.

FBCSZ Church Covenant:

Responsively read by Pastor and congregation on the first Sunday of the month before our Communion Service.

Statement of Faith: *(from Article 1, Section 2 of the FBCSZ Constitution)*

Statement 1. We believe in the one true God manifest in three persons-Father, Son & Holy Spirit.

Statement 2. We believe the Bible is the inspired word of God and is the final authority for faith and conduct.

Statement 3. We believe in salvation by grace through faith and the blood of Jesus.

Statement 4. We believe that we are to love God and all people.

Statement 5. We believe in teaching the gospel of Jesus Christ to all the people of all the nations.

Statement 6. We believe in the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Statement 7. We believe in two ordinances: Baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper.

Statement 8. We believe in the covenant of marriage solely between a man and a woman.

Statement 9. We believe the church to be led by Jesus Christ and anchored in the ministries of prayer, outreach, discipleship and encouragement.

Statement 10. We believe in the sinless life of Christ in birth, death and resurrection. He is human and divine.

Statement 11. We believe in financially supporting the church through tithes and offerings.

MISSION & VISION STATEMENTS:

MISSION STATEMENT

We the people of First Baptist Church believe that Christ is the head of the Church and we endeavor to: love and lead all people to Christ; teach people to follow Him, and live a Christ-like life of obedience and servanthood until Christ returns.



With the relocation from its downtown Zanesville location (*urban/business setting*) to the Village of South Zanesville where the church is surrounded by residential neighborhoods, the general **VISION** of FBCSZ is to reach out to the unchurched in the



Vision Path/ Action Steps

To be developed and implemented cooperatively by FBCSZ Leadership & Pastor

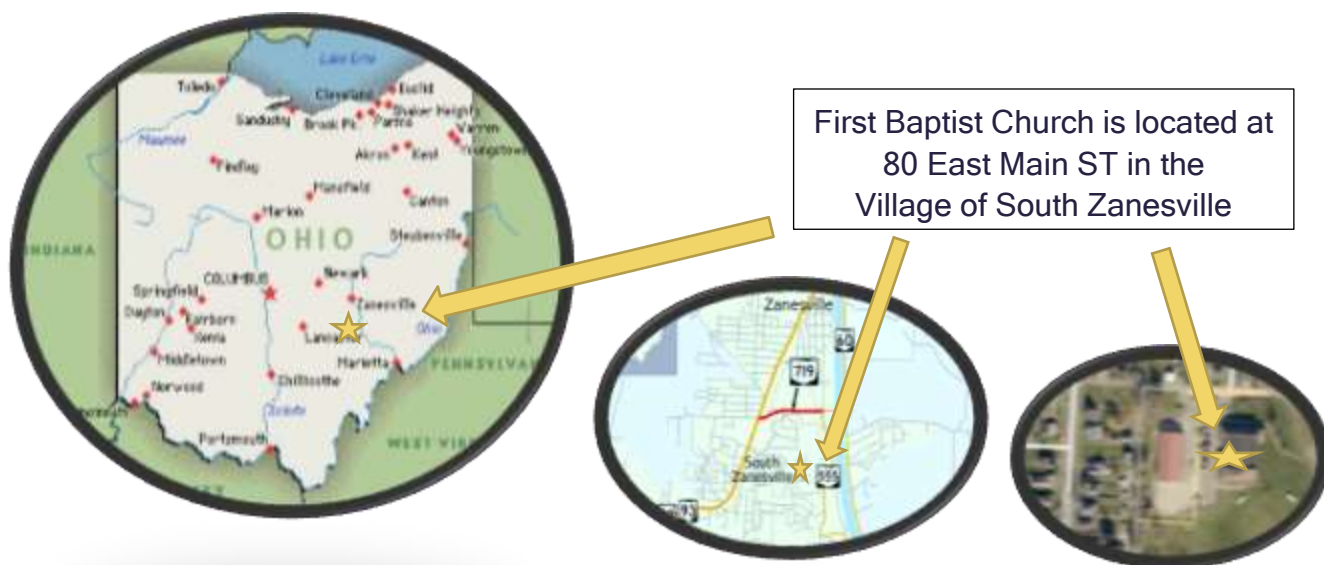
WHERE WE ARE LOCATED:

Located on Interstate 70 fifty miles east of Columbus, OH and 117 miles west of Pittsburgh, PA. Zanesville is the county seat and largest city (population 25,465) in Muskingum County. The Village of South Zanesville (population 1989) where the First Baptist Church of South Zanesville is located is south of Zanesville on US Route 22.

Zanesville was founded in 1797 by John McIntire on land deeded by his father-in-law Ebenezer Zane. It was Zane who led a party of men to cut a road (*Zane's Trace*) from Wheeling, WV southeastward to Maysville, KY leading to the establishment of Zanesville, Lancaster and Chillicothe at major river crossings.

At one time known as "*The Clay City*" and "*Pottery Capital of the World*", Zanesville has a rich history in the production of utilitarian and art pottery, traditions that continue to this day.

Zanesville is also noted for its unique "Y" shaped bridge which spans the confluence of the Muskingum and Licking Rivers. The current structure is the fifth Y-Bridge since 1814. Amelia Earhart called Zanesville "*the most recognizable city in the country*", referring to the Y-Bridge's usefulness as a navigational aid to pilots.



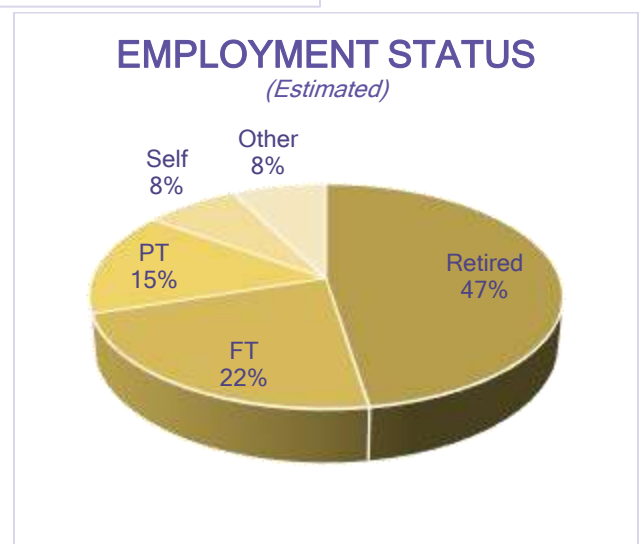
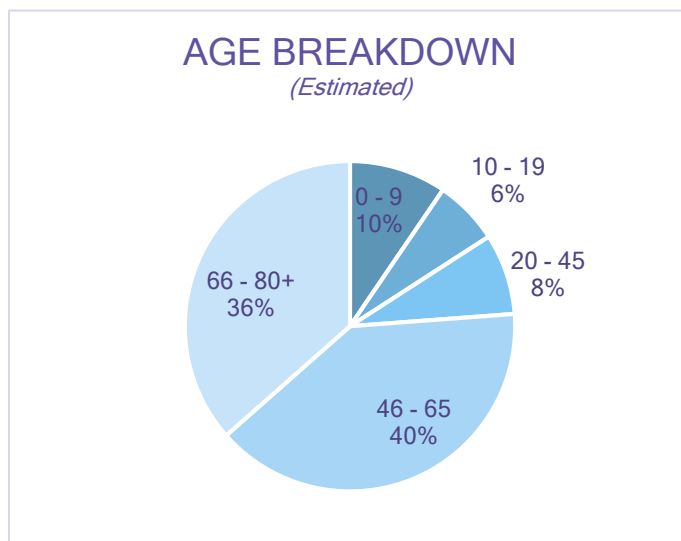
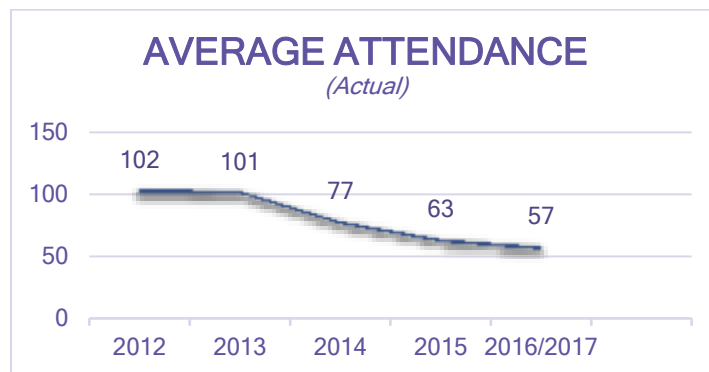
For additional information on Zanesville and Muskingum County Ohio please visit www.zmchamber.com or www.coz.org

OUR CHURCH INFORMATION:

First Baptist Church of Zanesville (*South Zanesville*) could be considered an “*older established church*”, with a 197 year history in the community. However, it could also be thought of as a “*transitioning/restart church*” due to our recent relocation (*Village of South Zanesville*), that has lived through significant challenges and is emerging with a new vision and a renewed enthusiasm for God’s work.

Although our current tithes and offerings are not supporting our current operation/ministry expenses, FBCSZ is blessed to be a recipient of a Trust that provides semi-annual income as well as healthy reserves from the sale of our downtown properties. Our current properties are mortgage free.

Active membership numbers 73 (61% female; 39% male). Average worship attendance 57. Living within the Zanesville/South Zanesville area 78%. The remaining 22% live in small communities in the area. 38% drive 10 or more miles to participate in church life.



OUR HISTORY:

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH SOUTH ZANESVILLE "197 Years Serving the Lord"

First Baptist Church of Zanesville (FBCZ) was founded in 1821. It has had a long history of ministry in the community of downtown Zanesville, including the birthing of several churches and the Ohio Baptist Convention. The old Meeting House was built in 1852, the more modern structure in 1975-76, both built side by side on rather small lots. The last building served the church well for many years.

In early 2011, the findings of the ABC/OH Church Health Assessment Tool (CHAT) survey conducted by the FBCZ leadership team indicated a strong desire to provide opportunities for the youth, but indicated limited property space at the Sixth St. location to expand. In addition the CHAT survey identified costly, but much needed, renovations to the Sixth St property, such as handicap accessibility, roof repairs, kitchen expansion/updates.



In March of 2012, the church congregation voted to purchase a property (*a ten year vacated school gymnasium with 7.74 acres of ball fields/land*) located 2.7 miles south of its 6th St. location. A five year renovation plan was developed to bring the facility up to code and use for youth programming, etc. In the summer of 2012 the property (*outdoor fields*) was first utilized for a week long "*Upward Sports Soccer Camp*" instead of



FBCZ's traditional Vacation Bible School.

In 2013, FBCZ's neighbor, Dutro Ford, Lincoln, Nissan, approached the FBCZ leadership with an offer to purchase the 6th St.

properties in order to expand its dealership. After much prayer and congregational discussion the FBCZ congregation voted to sell the 6th St. location in the spring of 2014 for various reasons:

- **Financial** - the renovations to the South Zanesville property had been accelerated from the original five year plan to a two year plan drawing heavily on the reserves of the church;

- **Location** - if FBCZ stayed on Sixth St. we would be *“land-locked”* with no hope for future expansion, due to our surrounding neighbors selling their properties to the car dealership. The FBC South Zanesville property is located in a residential area verses the Sixth St. property being located in a downtown/business/urban area;
- **6th St. property Improvements** - the much need renovations and updates to the 6th St, property would be costly with funding currently not available due to the acceleration of the renovation schedule at the South Zanesville location.

In May of 2015, the FBCZ relocated to its current location at 80 East Main St., South Zanesville, OH. Additional renovations were made to the interior and exterior of the building and an additional adjacent 1.25 acre property with large pole building (*interior unfinished*) was purchased in 2015. Worship services are currently being held in the gymnasium which also houses offices, catering kitchen/fellowship area, nursery and Jr.



Church area, etc.

As with all changes, our church's relocation was not met by all with enthusiastic acceptance. A number of the members chose to withdraw from the fellowship and join other churches. It is with regret

that we accept their decisions and the reasons for them, but as Baptists, we are committed to *“agree to disagree”* which allows us for a parting of the ways but to continue to love and pray for one another. We at FBCSZ continue to trust in the leadership and the love of God. We feel he has brought us to this new location for a specific reason and purpose. It is our desire to discern God's purpose for FBCSZ in this new location.

Our last three installed pastors are as follows:

Rev. Joseph S. Seese (05/15/08 - 06/30/16)

Rev. Seese encouraged the FBCZ congregation to take the church to the community through outreach projects such as its *“Back-To-School Block Party”*, community Easter Egg Hunt, *“Upward Sports”* and cooperation with

other local churches through *"The Church Has Left the Building"* community outreach projects and the *"Downtown Youth Fellowship"*.

He also provided various opportunities for church members to educate themselves through webinars, special book studies and the ABC/OH sponsored "Rise Up & Build" program. His sermons provided good relative messages that the congregation could apply to everyday life situations and had a wonderful ability to personalize special services, such as funeral services and baby dedications. Pastor Joe was a strong American Baptist Churches/ Ohio advocate serving the region in various leadership roles and encouraged FBCZ to become more active at the regional level.

He provided leadership during the challenging transition from FBCZ's downtown location to its current location in South Zanesville. This was a difficult transition for many which resulted in a decline in active/supportive membership which lead to a decline in financial giving.

In December 2015, Rev. Seese proposed a *"Formal Separation Agreement"* with FBCSZ to conclude June 30, 2016. During this six month period Rev. Seese continued his pastoral duties at FBCSZ with full compensation and began a search for a new congregation. This transition was cordial and professional.

Pastor Joe is currently serving First Baptist Church Clendenin, West Virginia. Shortly after joining his new congregation, Clendenin experienced a devastating flood that damaged both the church building and parsonage. In addition to financial support, FBCSZ provided its Church Bus and driver to transport local work crews and supplies to assist with cleanup efforts.

FBCSZ has learned that it needs to strengthen its commitment to the "Pastoral Relationship" by developing an open and honest communication link between congregation/leadership and pastor. We recognize the necessity and importance of an active and trained Pastoral Relations Committee. In exploring the various options to fill the pastoral position it has been determined that a full-time pastor is needed to meet the congregation's expectation of growing the church.

Rev. Peter S. Mathewson (10/01/02 - 01/01/05):

Rev Mathewson brought good ideas for the Church's future growth and development; recognized the need for technology; was well spoken; encouraged community outreach projects; and commanded decisions. FBCZ hired a facilitator/consultant to assist the Church in developing a "Vision Plan", so that the pastor could be an active participant in the process; negotiated additional contract points upon his request; and supported the Pastor's community involvement activities.

Rev. Mathewson was asked to leave because his leadership style was not conducive for FBCZ. This caused conflict within the Church. As with all conflicts, this was a difficult time for FBCZ and we invited the American Baptist Conflict Management Team in to conduct a review of the church. Their report was shared with all members of the Congregation, with the conclusion that FBCZ's membership desires to work with pastoral leadership to do God's work. After taking this critical look at ourselves as a congregation, the following steps have been implemented to help resolve the issues identified:

- Established a Church Council to help create better communication channels between Boards/Committees, the Pastor, and Congregation. This Council addresses problems and issues that periodically arise in a timely manner;
- Has discussed the formation of a Pastoral Relations Committee to improve relationships between church members and the pastor;
- Boards and Committees have realized that they must take their duties seriously and be dedicated to service.

Rev. J. Reginald Martin (04/01/97 - 03/31/02)

Rev. Martin provided stable, honest, supportive leadership; good communication skills - was successful in getting the congregation involved, engaged and educated on Church related issues; well organized; and brought unity to the congregation. Rev. Martin retired in March 2002 as he had planned when originally accepting the position. Rev. Martin served FBCZ as Interim Pastor January 2005 - May 2008. In September 2008, the congregation of FBCZ was honored to elect Rev. Reginald Martin as Pastor Emeritus. He is currently participating as an active member of FBCSZ.

CONGREGATIONAL STYLE INDICATOR:

- ✚ **LEADERSHIP:** Our church expects the pastor to *SHARE* in leadership.
- ✚ **TRADITION:** Our church reflects *HISTORY AND TRADITION*, but acknowledges the need to move toward contemporary ideas.
- ✚ **CONFLICT:** Our church *SEEKS TO AVOID* conflict and confrontation.
- ✚ **SOCIAL ISSUES:** Our church approaches social issues from an *EDUCATIONAL STANCE*, leaving action to individual conscience.
- ✚ **ETHICAL DECISIONS:** Our church feels ethical decisions should be based on *ABSOLUTE* standards.
- ✚ **ABC INVOLVEMENT:** Our church *EMPHASIZES* ABC relationships locally and internationally.
- ✚ **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** Our church is *OFTEN* involved in community projects and activities.
- ✚ **DECISION MAKING:** Our church's routine business, ideas and plans are conducted by the responsible board or committee. Major decisions are made by the congregation (*quarterly Business Meetings and/or Special Business Meetings*).
- ✚ **COMMUNICATION:** Our church's decisions are communicated *FORMALLY* through worship announcements, bulletins and the "*First Pages*" newsletter.
- ✚ **ABC GIVING:** Our church places *MUCH* emphasis on giving to missions (*local, ABC/OH, ABC/International*).

OUR CHURCH LIFE:



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



"ART FOR CHRIST" CLASSES



**FACE PAINTING ACTIVITY DURING
*"BACK TO SCHOOL - BLOCK PARTY"***

- VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
- GOOD FRIDAY PROJECT
- EASTER EGG HUNT
- *"ART FOR CHRIST" CLASSES*
- BACK TO SCHOOL BLOCK PARTY/SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVE-AWAY
- FALL WEINER ROAST
- HANGING OF THE GREENS
- FELLOWSHIP DINNERS
 - Thanksgiving Dinner
 - Easter SONrise Breakfast
 - 5th Sunday Luncheons
 - Annual Picnic
 - Chili Cook-Off
 - Family Support Dinners
- FAMILY MOVIE NIGHTS
- FAMILY GAME NIGHTS
- BUS FIELD TRIPS
- ZANESVILLE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION MEETINGS & *"SINGSPIRATIONS"*

OUR WORSHIP LIFE:



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



FBCSZ CHOIR

Sunday School

9:00 am

Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:00 am

Announcements/Call to Worship
Worship Songs & Greeting each other
Tithe & Offerings
Children's Message
Choir Anthem/Special Music
Morning Prayer
MESSAGE
Invitation & Closing

Jr. Church (*ages 5 - Grade 4*)

During Sunday Worship Service

Wednesday Evening

"REWIND" Bible Study & Prayer Time
*(a deeper look at Sunday's message
with great discussion)*

5:45 pm - 6:30 pm

Choir Practice

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm
(September - May)

Men's Fellowship

1st Saturday of the month at 8 am

Ladies All Day Retreat

Priscilla Missionary Circle

3rd Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm

Nursery Available
(through age 5)

Bus Ministry

OUR MISSION & OUTREACH PARTICIPATION:

ABWM - PRISCILLIA MISSIONARY CIRCLE SPONSORED PROJECTS:

- ✚ Ongoing project, members sponsor a gently used clothing drive for Eastside Community Ministry's Clothing Bank;
- ✚ Monthly, members coordinate a bottled water give away to people participating in a Free Produce Market held at FBCSZ;
- ✚ In 2017, church members collected 734 pairs of socks to complement our local student's back to school shoe give away, Wendy's "Lace Up Kids";
- ✚ Annually, church members donate school supplies for FBCSZ's "Back To School Block Party";
- ✚ Annually, church members participate in ABW Care & Share State Project for "Neighborhood Ministries" (*Youngstown*) and "Dayton Christian Center";
- ✚ Supplies and prepares requested materials for the "White Cross" project for the Democratic Republic of Congo;
- ✚ Periodically, promotes and receives offerings for missionaries working around the world (*Burundi, El Salvador and Nicaragua*);
- ✚ October and November 2017, church members packed and sent 178 shoeboxes for "Samaritan Purse - Operation Christmas Child".

FBCSZ MISSION BOARD:

- ✚ Educates and updates the congregation on the work of ABC Missionaries throughout the world through its "Missionary of the Month" program;
- ✚ When missionaries are available to visit, the Mission Board sponsors and hosts Mission Sundays where missionaries provide first-hand accounts of their work in the mission field;
- ✚ Promotes and receives the four Special AB sponsored offerings: Buckeye Missionary & Missions Offering; America for Christ, World Mission Offering and Retired Ministers & Missionary Offering.

OTHER MISSION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECTS:

- ✚ In the spring, FBCSZ's Men's Fellowship assists in the preparation for the "Living Word Outdoor Drama" (summer passion play) theater and then return in the fall to assist with the clean-up and closing of the grounds;
- ✚ Church members work together in cooperation with Eastside Community Ministry and Mid-Ohio Food Bank to bring regular FREE Produce Markets held at FBCSZ. Approximately 200 households/450+ individuals are assisted through this project each month;



- ✦ Church members gather to serve lunch at a local hot meal program, Christ's Table, on the second Saturday of each month;
- ✦ Church members raise funds and walk in support of the local CROP Walk that provides funds to purchase food locally and internationally;
- ✦ Church members volunteer and support the community's SOUPer Bowl Benefit Luncheon which raises funds for five local organizations that provide food to local families in need;
- ✦ Church members support the "Living Word Outdoor Drama Banquet & Auction" which raises the much needed operational funds for the local passion play;
- ✦ FBCSZ is blessed by being one of the beneficiaries of the William T. Perry Trust. The church provides an annual tithe of this gift to organizations outside of FBCSZ.

**Packing Back Packs for
Back to School Block Party**



FREE Produce Market - 8 time per year



Serving lunch at Christ's Table (*Hot Meal Program*)- 2nd Saturday of each month

MINISTRY PRIORITY AREAS:

The FBCSZ Search Committee surveyed the congregation's view on the ministry areas in which our next pastor should be competent:

1. **PREACHING** - support the preaching ministry with time for preparation/reflection on the Word and commitment to listen for the Word's power and its implications for individuals the church, the community and the world.
2. **CHURCH GROWTH** - develop and maintain programs and activities for enlarging the membership and/or the church's vision for ministry.
3. **COMMUNICATION** - keep persons informed through the use of the media, the church newsletter, etc.
4. **PASTORAL CARE** - provide by word and presence an empathetic understanding of and concern for persons in the routine and joys as well as the crises and transitions of life, giving assistance where appropriate and feasible.
5. **SPIRITUAL LIFE DEVELOPMENT** - provide opportunities for individuals or groups to understand and enhance the spiritual dimensions of their personal lives.
6. **EVANGELISM** - seek to lead persons to make decisions for Christ, encouraging their identification with and participation in the local church and community.
7. **VISITATION** - Make formal and informal connections with church members or others in their homes, at work or in other settings.
8. **LEADERSHIP** - Attempt to turn vision into reality and to sustain it in the church.

Additional attributes needed to further the ministries at FBCSZ include:

- ✚ Supportive of missions (*ABC, local, etc.*);
- ✚ Willing to work with boards and committees;
- ✚ Accept suggestions and constructive criticism, turning them into positive actions;
- ✚ Comfortable with retired ministers being members of the congregation;
- ✚ Good sense of humor, able to laugh and enjoy life;
- ✚ Family oriented;
- ✚ People person, genuinely loves to interact with people with diverse backgrounds.

PASTORAL MINISTRY COMPENSATION:

Our current budget allows us to offer total compensation which includes housing allowance, cash salary, automotive allowance and M & M retirement. We give our pastor the ability to distribute the total package amounts as to best serves his/her needs, within the tax regulations.

We allow and would encourage a reasonable amount of off-site meetings representing FBCSZ at ABC state and regional conferences and events that will further enhance FBCSZ's involvement with our denomination.

We will reimburse at standard mileage rates for personal automobile usage for the church's business, pastoral care, counseling and outreach up to the amount designated by the Pastor from the total compensation package.

FBCSZ does not have a parsonage. In order to focus on Church Growth (*Ministry Priority #2*) we want our Pastor to live in the Zanesville area, preferably the South Zanesville area where the church is located.

CONVENTION/EDUCATION: \$175.00;

BOOKS/PERIODICALS: \$100.00 (*Books provided if needed for church purposes; Personal books paid by pastor*);

HOSPITALITY/MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES: \$100.00;

VACATION: Four weeks per year (*as agreed upon with Deacon Board*);

DAYS OFF: Two days per week (*as agreed upon with Deacon Board*);

PERSONAL LEAVE: Eight days per year (*work related workshop considered a work day*);

HOLIDAYS (*unless holiday falls on Sunday*): New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Day;

MOVING EXPENSES: Negotiable (*two estimates requested*)

We pray for a new Pastor (*that God has already selected*) that will help lead our FBCSZ congregation into a bright future! We are looking for a Pastor who will work in concert with us to allow us all to learn how to better serve God in our new location in the Village of South Zanesville.

