



4901 Hardy Street Hattiesburg, MS 39402

SENIOR PASTOR PROFILE

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

- The senior pastor must give clear evidence of a personally intimate, vital, mature relationship with God.
- He must have an obvious passion for knowing and living out the Word of God.
- He must be a skilled and faithful interpreter of the Holy Scriptures, able to effectively preach and teach the whole counsel of God in an expository manner.
- He must be a man committed to prayer.
- He must have strong, positive interpersonal skills and a proven record of ability and enthusiasm for shepherding God's people well.
- He must be an exemplary leader and an effective manager of his time and responsibilities.
- He should be known as a man of integrity and humility.
- He must lead and care for his family with Christ-like love and grace.
- He must meet all the New Testament requirements for office and hold doctrinal views consistent with those of the PCA. He should have met (or be able to meet) all the educational and ordination standards of the PCA.

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Preaching/Teaching

The senior pastor's primary responsibility is to faithfully and fully preach the Word of God, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to carefully make application of it to the entirety and diversity of the congregation. He will accept an active and regular teaching role in the church, teaching the Bible and all things pertaining to reformed Christian faith and practice. In combination with other staff ministers, he will officiate at special services such as funerals, weddings, conferences, etc.

Worship Leadership

He will oversee the planning and conduct of God-centered, Gospel-proclaiming worship and administration of the sacraments, in accordance with the “Worship - Vision and Values” document (see attached) for corporate worship at FPC. He will guide and instruct the congregation according to Biblical principles of worship.

Spiritual Development of Members

The senior pastor will assume the primary leadership and oversight of the spiritual growth and maturity of church members through several and various means: teaching and discipling, training, counseling, visiting and exhorting. He will lead the spiritual development of the people both singly and jointly with other pastors, officers, leaders, teachers, committees by identifying the educational and personal needs of all ages and backgrounds to establish educational goals congruent with the mission of the church and to develop ministries and resources to meet the needs. In combination with other ministers on staff, he should provide pastoral counseling to families and individuals of the church, and refer people to professional counselors when needed.

Evangelism/Missions

The pastor will share his faith in Christ as personal Savior in total lifestyle, and will seek to lead others within and outside the church to accept Christ. He will inform, train and help the congregation to establish effective evangelism, missions and discipleship programs for the work and vision of the ministry of the church.

Church Administration

The senior pastor will serve as chief administrator of the church by:

- managing all areas with and under the authority of the Session and in coordination with the diaconate, according to current standing procedures and policies;
- supervision of ministerial staff, who have direct oversight of specific populations in the body, i.e. children and youth ministries, college and career ministry, ministry to senior citizens, family ministries, singles ministry, music ministry;
- oversight of and participation in training and managing church leadership: elders, deacons, teachers;
- spiritual and occupational supervision of administrative staff/office personnel/lay leadership;
- working with church officers to develop and carry out a systematic plan for visitation of the entire congregation and prospective members, with special attention to those with special needs. He will utilize a network for communicating information of needs/crisis situations among the leadership and to the congregation, as needed;
- overseeing staff and church communications to include but not be limited to reviewing and writing for the First Pres News each week, effectively utilizing and managing social media.

The Larger Church

The senior pastor will maintain an active participation in and support of Grace Presbytery and the PCA. Along with the session he will maintain a cooperative work with other local PCA and evangelical churches.