

New Hope Baptist Church of East Orange
144 Norman St
East Orange, NJ 07017

Senior Pastor Vacancy Announcement

New Hope Baptist Church, located in a predominately African American neighborhood, is prayerfully seeking to fulfill the position of our beloved retiring Senior Pastor, after 23 years of dedicated service. Our church has grown tremendously with three Sunday services, 7 associate ministers and numerous ministries to serve the needs of our 1500+ members and the surrounding community. We are affiliated with the American Baptist Churches of New Jersey, a missional region serving Jesus throughout our state and beyond. It is expected that our ideal, spirit-filled and visionary Senior Pastor will have the enthusiasm required to maintain and/or exceed our momentum in the church's spiritual growth. The most basic expectation is that a pastor is a spiritual person with a strong commitment to Jesus Christ. From which all ministry flows.

Pastoral Qualifications and Competencies:

- **Educational and Professional minimum requirements for all candidates**
 - Must be an ordained and licensed minister with at least 5 years of Baptist Church ministerial experiences of serving a church of 1000 members or more. The candidate must have documented supporting credentials.
 - The ideal candidate must have a Bachelor's from an accredited college or university with documented study in a theological seminary at a minimum. A theological level Master's Degree or Higher is preferred.

- **Personal Spirituality**
 - An intentional, daily devotional experience.
 - Demonstrate an intentional plan for spiritual growth.
 - Must be a humble, visionary leader who embraces change that supports the church's mission and goals
 - Be totally committed to uplifting humanity through the proclamation of the glorious gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Be above reproach in personal character and financial standards both inside and outside the church

- **Family Life**
 - Recognize the influence of a supportive family as a significant impact in the success of ministry.

- **Preaching/Worship**
 - The proclamation of God's Word, centered in Jesus Christ, should be the main focus.
 - Maintain doctrinal soundness in all sermons.
 - Prepare and preach biblically based inspirational sermons, provide biblically based teaching during mid-weekly bible study.
 - Deliver sermons in an interesting, creative and motivating manner.

- Spend adequate study and preparation time each week to ensure an appropriate worship experience.
- **Pastoral Services**
 - Maintain a regular and systematic program of member visitation both by the pastor and through people who care and have skills to visit in homes.
 - Maintain scheduled and published office hours.
 - Provide spiritual counseling and/or referral for members' crisis situations.
 - Be available for crisis situations as needed.
 - Develop a plan, in consultation with the church leadership, for reclaiming inactive members.
 - Process redemptive discipline following Church Manual guidelines.
 - Nurture youth involvement and assimilation in the church.
 - Maintain sensitivity to groups with special needs, e.g. elderly, disabled, single parents.
 - Develop, organize and equip members to make visitations and evangelize to the unsaved.
 - Must encourage stewardship, missions support and tithing.
- **Church Growth**

A personal involvement in soul winning will model a passion for people, not because of being paid for a job, but out of love for Christ.

 - Provide leadership toward church growth.
 - Involve members in spiritual gifts identification, equipping, training, organizing, and discipline, including an on-going program of personal Bible studies.
 - Keep in touch with the congregation, watching the trends and understanding the reasons for significant changes.
 - Maintain a current, active interest list.
 - Work collaboratively with the deacons, trustees, deaconess, ministry chairs and congregation. Plan, design and organize ongoing leadership training opportunities.
 - Must aspire to establish, foster and maintain a strong sense of community.
 - Oversee the development of new and maintenance of existing community outreach programs as prescribed in Matthew 25:35-36.

Administration

- *Lead the church in establishing short term and long-range objectives.*
- *Plan a yearly calendar including boards, programs and other important events.*
- *Work in harmony with the actions of the Joint board.*
- Must possess effective leadership, administrative, organizational and general/financial managerial skills.

- **Submission Requirements**

Prospective, interested and qualified candidates must submit the following by May 1, 2017.

- Updated detailed résumé that includes a summary of relevant ministry, professional and educational experiences with cover letter.
- Completion of attached New Hope Baptist Church questionnaire.
- DVD of service in which you have preached.
- Affiliated with one of the following The North Jersey Missionary Baptist Association; General Baptist Association; The American Baptist Church, USA or a similar organization.

Upon receipt and review of the complete requested information, the Pastoral Search Committee will review submissions and notify candidates of the next steps.

Please submit require materials to:

Sister Michelle Softley, Chairman
Pastoral Search Committee
P. O. Box 528
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

Contact Information

For questions regarding the vacancy, please contact Sister Michelle Softley, Chairman Pastoral Search Committee, at 862-520-2101.