

First Baptist Church
Augusta, Kansas
Community/Church Profile
Senior Pastor Summary

www.fbcaugusta.org

If interested, please send cover letter, resume, and statement of faith. These may be sent in the mail or electronically. We would also like to be able to view a sermon, either through a link, or a DVD.

Electronic information is sent to: Junia Barber, juniabarber@cox.net

Hard copies are sent to: Darrell Markley, 910 State Street, Augusta, KS 67010

The Community

First Baptist Church Augusta is located in the heart of Kansas, about 15 miles east of Wichita. This allows easy access to a more metropolitan city, while still being able to enjoy life in a smaller community. The city of Augusta has about 9,300 citizens and 40 businesses. It has four elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. All of the schools were recently renovated or rebuilt and each structure now contains a FEMA shelter. The district has small class sizes and believes student achievement is #1. A sense of “community” can be witnessed through various activities. In the fall, many residents attend the high school football games, tailgating and cheering for the home team. A yearly homecoming parade is attended by businesses, schools, and many other members of the community. In December, the revitalized downtown district comes alive with a Christmas parade, tree lighting, and other holiday events. Other amenities found within Augusta include a nine-hole golf course, community swimming pool, one lake, two play parks, a newly renovated bowling alley, vibrant youth sports programs, and an historical theatre that is included on the National Register of Historical Places. Augusta is a great community with many opportunities for developing long-lasting relationships and memories.

The Church

First Baptist Church of Augusta (FBC) is one of the oldest Baptist churches west of the Mississippi River, so its roots have been in this community for a long time. Eight early pioneers of the Augusta area were recorded to have met in a home on January 9, 1869 to organize what is now known as First Baptist Church of Augusta, KS. Since that inaugural meeting, FBC has had its residence at three different sites over the past 145 years. Today, the church has over 800 members, three full-time pastors, and more than eight full and part-time staff. A few years ago FBC withdrew from the American Baptist Conference but still holds strong to Baptist theology.

FBC has a mission to help people: “**Belong** -- feel welcome, valued, and connected in the church community; **Believe** -- develop a relationship with Jesus by grace through faith; and **Become** -- passionate followers of Jesus who live out their faith in every aspect of life”. FBC’s vision is to seek to be a gospel community where people are valued and become passionate followers of Jesus.

FBC supports several programs within its community of believers. Sunday School is strong and vibrant with classes available for all ages. This is where the long-lasting connections with others are made. FBC’s Children’s Ministry is strong, offering opportunities throughout the year for the children. The church has an outstanding Youth Ministry with opportunities for summer tours and mission work; local mission work; weekly Bible study meetings; and social activities. During the last 16 years, more than 900 students have participated in mission trips and at least 15 young men and women from the Youth Program have answered the call to ministry in various forms.

FBC also has an on-sight preschool that has been in existence for 33 years. It is open for enrollment to the entire community. A Counseling Center is housed within the church and offers Christian premarital, family, and individual counseling.

The Church has two worship services on Sunday mornings. One is a traditional service with a choir, organ, and hymns. The contemporary service has a praise band that leads worship with a blend of the newest Christian worship music along with some hymns.

FBC’s Constitution contains the guidelines for the structure of its leadership. There are two governing bodies that oversee the workings of the church: The Diaconate and The Leadership Team. The Deacons are responsible for working with the pastoral staff on the spiritual life of the church and the Deaconesses are responsible for service and hospitality ministries and, along with the Deacons, supporting the church body as a whole. The Leadership Team guides and coordinates all ministries and operations of the Church through Core Teams (Diaconate, Discipleship, Missions, Facilities, and Finance). Business Meetings are held at various points throughout the year to update the Church, approve new members and the budget, and to vote on various topics presented by the Leadership Team.

The Senior Pastor

The Pastoral Search Team conducted a survey of Church members to gather information concerning the areas of strength desired in a new senior pastor. The following are the top five areas of **pastoral strengths** being sought by the congregation and the search team:

1. Preaching: conveying Biblical truth without watering down the message

2. Inspirational Teaching: making the Bible come alive to people through clear, inspirational, motivational teaching
3. Relevance: making the Gospel relevant to people's lives through clear, exciting preaching and teaching
4. Personal Evangelism: relating the Christian faith to non-believers
5. Crisis Intervention: visiting people in crisis (death, illness, etc.).

The survey also collected data concerning the desired **personality traits** of a senior pastor. The results are as follows:

1. Dependence on God: seeks and follows God's will on a daily basis
2. Integrity: has a dependable and consistent approach and actively supports decisions of the congregation
3. Optimism: looks forward to each day as a new and adventurous gift from God
4. Judgment: accurately assesses possible consequences of actions for himself and for the congregation, has the ability to make sound decisions
5. Empathy: relates to people with an appreciation and respect that encourages them to share their life decisions, joys and grief.

FBC is actively praying and seeking God's guidance as it searches for the person He has already chosen and is even now preparing for "such a time as this" in the life of His church.

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