

LEAD PASTOR

We, the Bethany Christian Church, are seeking a Lead Pastor. We are a long standing NW Mennonite conference congregation of 40-50 people and are located in the Northern Alberta hamlet of Smith, approximately two hours north of Edmonton.

We are a body that is seeking to grow in the Lord and believe that a healthy church nurtures those within and reaches out to a hurting and lost world. We desire a pastor who is a serious student of God's word, who can communicate that word effectively and practically to people of all ages and nationalities. He will be proficient in the area of pastoral care, yet able to realize when outside resources are needed. He will be authentic - true to his word while living what he professes. It is essential that he have a servant's heart while showing his heart and passion for the Lord and the church to those he interacts with. We desire a pastor with a shepherd's heart not only for our church family but for our community as well. He will need to be a team player that is dependable. Relationships are of critical importance therefore we desire a pastor that is willing to grow people and invite them to do ministry with him by engaging and empowering them to go forward and serve. We desire a pastor that will be a leader among leaders, who leads with integrity, who is continually growing in Christ as he walks with and leads the church in developing and maintaining the overall vision and mission of the church. Leadership in the Christian context is helping God's people fulfill the vision and mission to which God has called them.

VISION:

We exist to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and to love our neighbor as ourselves. (Mk. 12: 30, 31)

VALUES

We value love for God, love for His body (the church), a passion for others and the lost. We aspire to be authentic/real in our walk to become more like Christ.

MISSION

We will provide opportunities to encourage and cultivate a passion for God, individually, in our families and as the body of Christ here in Smith through personal time, relationships, finances of the church, the pastors shepherding and to love those around us.

What Our Church is like:

Bethany Church is a small church with open doors and open hearts. Our members are authentic in their sincerity, compassion, warmth and love of the Lord. In many ways we are like an extended family. We are a prayerful congregation that has a true passion and a deep love for the Lord. Members are actively engaged in a variety of church activities. Despite being a small church, we are surprisingly diverse. Here you will find a diversity in age, ethnicity as well as backgrounds in Christian based faiths. We have active bible study groups regularly taking place which contributes to strengthening our walk with the Lord and each other. Our compassion extends beyond the walls of our church as we embrace opportunities to love our neighbours both near and far. We are actively involved in local and international missions.

What Our Community is Like:

The Hamlet of Smith is a small, rural community that is a wonderful place to call home. We are located 2 hours north of Edmonton. The employment in the area centers around forestry, oil & gas and agriculture. While we enjoy many aspects of life in the quiet country-side, we are a short distance to Athabasca (50 minutes east), Slave Lake (40 minutes north) and Westlock (1 hour south). The town is nestled alongside the Athabasca River. Our rural setting is perfect for those that enjoy the outdoors. Whether it is camping, hunting, quadding, fishing, boating, horseback riding or simply watching the stars – Smith is the place to be! The hamlet boasts a small grocery shop, a convenience store and gas station, a restaurant, a post office and a Sears Outlet. We have a very active seniors club as well active community

organizations like the Smith Hondo Agriculture Recreation Association (SHARA), The Smith Community Development Council (SCDC), an active Scouts program for youth, a horse club and more. We have a small, but fantastic public library which is connected with the Peace Library System and a brand new community hall facility that is accessible for many different things. We are fortunate to have an excellent school in our community. Smith School is a place to Believe, Lead and Achieve. The school is both an APPLE school and a Leader in Me school where student engagement and leadership is encouraged. There are a wide range of electives provided to students through classes as well as Smith University (something unique to students at Smith School). Student clubs are plenty – including archery, international travel, student leadership, wellness and so much more.

Church Affiliation:

Bethany Christian church is affiliated with the Northwest Mennonite Conference (NWMC). The roots of the NWMC go back to the Anabaptist reformation in Switzerland in the 1500s. In 1903 a bishop was sent from Ontario to facilitate the forming of a Northwest district consisting of 3 churches. The NWMC is now an exciting blend of 15 English and Spanish speaking churches whose purpose it is to bring glory to God by building His kingdom on earth. One advantage of being a small conference, is the greater level of care the conference minister is able to provide to pastors and their congregations.

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Find us on Facebook at Smith Bethany Church