


EBENEZER COMMUNITY CHURCH

2624 Morena Street, Nashville, TN 37208

 ECCPastoralSearchCommittee@gmail.com

 www.ebenezercommunitychurch.info



PASTOR JOB DESCRIPTION

Ebenezer Community Church • Nashville, Tennessee

Opening Date: March 22, 2026 • Closing Date: May 4, 2026

"Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen, and called its name Ebenezer, saying, 'Hitherto the LORD has helped us.'" — 1 Samuel 7:12

ABOUT EBENEZER COMMUNITY CHURCH

Our History

Ebenezer Community Church was founded in 1943 when 110 faithful members departed from Mt. Nebo Baptist Church to establish a new congregation under the leadership of Rev. I. Golphin. Gathering on the lawn of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Thompson, they chose the name "Ebenezer" — drawn from 1 Samuel 7:12 — as a declaration that the Lord had brought them this far. Despite the challenges of World War II limiting access to materials, the founding members built their first sanctuary by hand, and in 1943 the congregation marched to their new home singing "I'm On My Way to Canaan Land." From its earliest days, Ebenezer was a vibrant community of worship, mission, and ministry, even holding the distinction of being the first church in Nashville to feature a tuba player in its music ministry.

Over the following decades, Ebenezer was shaped by a succession of dedicated pastors. Rev. N. Samuel Jones served faithfully for twenty-five years following Rev. Golphin's passing in 1952, and Dr. Nehemiah Douglas led the congregation from 1977 until his passing in 1994. Rev. Michael E. Williams then guided the church through a season of significant growth and a broadened identity, culminating in the 2003 renaming to Ebenezer Community Church.

Today, Ebenezer continues its legacy under the leadership of its sixth pastor, Rev. Granville "Sonny" Lyons III, unanimously called and installed in January 2018 — a divine appointment reflecting how God has guided this congregation at every turn.

Our Vision

Ebenezer Community Church of Nashville strives to be a beacon in the community that promotes real and relevant ministries through biblically sound teaching, which enriches lives spiritually and empowers us to evangelize as disciples.


Our Mission

Ebenezer Community Church of Nashville exists to develop and mature spiritually as a body of believers through biblical teachings and Christian fellowship as we continue to be risk takers for God, responding to the needs of an "ever changing" world.

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POSITION SUMMARY

Ebenezer Community Church is prayerfully seeking God's choice for our next Senior Pastor — a servant-leader who will lead, feed, and nurture our congregation. The candidate must believe that God is the one who calls Pastors to shepherd His people (Jeremiah 3:15).

Our current pastoral leadership has guided the congregation faithfully during this transitional season. The candidate's main responsibilities will be to communicate God's Word, attend to the spiritual needs of the members, and provide biblical leadership for the church.

The successful candidate must be God-fearing, demonstrate an enthusiastic love for Christ, possess and apply a comprehensive knowledge of the Bible, utilize the Baptist doctrine, and provide leadership in developing a clearly defined vision and direction; as well as be an inspiring and challenging preacher and teacher with sermons that make the Gospel relevant to the lives of individuals. The successful candidate will lead the congregation as we strive to attract new members and reach young people and families.

PASTOR DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The Pastor shall:

- Develop and deliver engaging, biblically and theologically based sermons, as well as counsel the membership and take charge of the spiritual welfare of the congregation;
- Direct the order of all worship services to ensure services are meaningful, accessible, and spiritually enriching;
- Oversee and ensure that the Lord's Supper/Communion is administered to the congregation and to sick and shut-in members, and direct the Ordinance of Baptism;
- Work with church leadership and staff to establish and execute a vision and plan for the church's growth and relevant community outreach, including designing, implementing, and evaluating effective ministries;
- Officiate weddings, funerals, memorial services, baby dedications, and any other services recognized by the church;
- Serve as the spiritual and administrative leader of the church and work in a spirit of cooperation with the Deacons, Mothers, Trustees, and other ministries to meet the needs of the congregation;
- Provide spiritual leadership and pastoral care to the congregation, including visiting the sick, counseling, and support during times of grief or other traumatic events.

THIS POSITION IS BIVOCATIONAL

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QUALIFICATIONS & EDUCATION

- A Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution is required; seminary experience is strongly recommended. The candidate shall demonstrate commitment to seeking additional education and training.
- The candidate must be a licensed and ordained Baptist minister in accordance with the Baptist doctrine.
- The candidate must have a clear understanding of the Baptist doctrine and the Articles of Faith.

DESIRED CHARACTERISTICS

Ebenezer Community Church seeks a pastor who embodies the following (Titus 1:6–9; 1 Timothy 3:2–7):

◆ Devoted to family <i>Titus 1:6; 1 Tim 3:2</i>	◆ Humble <i>Titus 1:7</i>	◆ Gentle <i>Titus 1:7; 1 Tim 3:3</i>
◆ Faithful Steward <i>Titus 1:7</i>	◆ Sober & Peaceful <i>Titus 1:7; 1 Tim 3:3</i>	◆ Financial Integrity <i>Titus 1:7; 1 Tim 3:3</i>
◆ Hospitable <i>Titus 1:8; 1 Tim 3:2</i>	◆ Lover of Good & Upright <i>Titus 1:8</i>	◆ Holy <i>Titus 1:8</i>
◆ Biblically Sound Teacher <i>Titus 1:9; 1 Tim 3:2</i>	◆ Spiritually Mature <i>1 Tim 3:6</i>	◆ Respectable <i>1 Tim 3:7</i>

EXPERIENCE

- Must have at least 2–5 years or more of ministry experience as an ordained Pastor or Associate Minister.

SKILLS & ABILITIES

- Must have the ability to establish trust and credibility with ECC members.
- Must have administrative and leadership skills with the ability to manage the affairs of the congregational organization through planning, decision making, delegating, evaluating, and managing conflict and stress; should be capable of leading the church's staff.
- Must have demonstrated the ability to prepare and deliver biblically sound, stimulating, inspirational, and Spirit-filled sermons with application to everyday life.
- Must possess strong interpersonal skills and be approachable; demonstrate inclusiveness for all demographics within the congregation.
- Must have excellent communication skills with the ability to connect with a diverse congregation.
- Must have a good understanding of technology, including social media and virtual ministry operations.

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APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS & PROCESS

All interested and qualified persons must submit an initial candidate package consisting of the following:

- Completed Pastoral Candidate Application
- Cover letter
- Supplemental Questions
- Current pastoral resume
- Official transcripts submitted to: Ebenezer Community Church, Attn: Pastoral Search Committee, 2624 Morena Street, Nashville, TN 37208
- Current photo of self/family
- Three (3) letters of spiritual recommendation — at least two clergy and one lay person — with contact information (email address and phone number).
- Two (2) sermons of 15–20 minutes preached within the last 6 months. Please provide a link to access sermons.
- Any additional information you wish to share with the Pastoral Search Committee.

Please submit all materials to:

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NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

The Pastoral Search Committee will acknowledge receipt of all submitted applications.

All information received will be treated confidentially.

May the blessings and covering of God be with you!