

First Baptist Church of Battle Lake, MN

Who We Are

We are an American Baptist church. Our congregation is small, comprised mainly of retired people. Because of the nature of the area, our attendance in the off-season is about 8 people, but climbs to 25 to 30 during the summer as members return to their lake cabins and vacationers stop in to attend a Sunday service while in the area.

Our church is located in Battle Lake, a resort town in West Central Minnesota in the midst of lakes country. Our town's official population is 875, but it more than doubles during summer months with the influx of visitors, snowbirds, and resorters returning to lake homes or coming for summer recreation. Many live on nearby lakes and in surrounding communities and townships, not in the town proper.

We have an excellent pianist/soloist who not only provides inspirational music during the worship service, but also takes care of seasonal maintenance.

The church was organized in 1883 and the historic building designed by Warren B. Dunnell, the architect of many public buildings and institutions across Minnesota. The church has had the longest continuously meeting congregation in Battle Lake. For several decades it was filled with moms, dads, and young people but, over time, young people grew up and moved away, mothers and fathers aged and passed away, and fewer newcomers have come to worship, resulting in a dwindling congregation.

Battle Lake and the surrounding area is home to a large number of churches—primarily Lutheran—but there is also a Catholic church in town with a large congregation and other churches, including Baptist (not American Baptist), within a 20-minute drive.

We would love to increase our witness in the area, grow in membership, and draw more young people into our church family.

What We Are Looking For

Our minister will have the following characteristics:

- Be ordained in the American Baptist Church
- Have the ability and willingness to share Christ and disciple others
- Have personal integrity
- Have positive human relations skills
- Can communicate well through a pulpit ministry
- Have love for the fellowship of the local church
- Can empathize with the deep concerns of the congregation

Our minister will fill several roles:

Spiritual Leader

Our minister will provide leadership and vision for the church and lead worship services through the preaching and teaching of biblical truths. He/she will also conduct and officiate weddings, funerals and ordinances, such as the Lord's Supper.

Pastor

Our minister will be the leader in outreach ministries, such as visitations to members' homes and hospitals or other facilities where members or their families may need prayer or spiritual comfort.

Missionary

Our minister will lead the church to continue to be mission minded. He/she will encourage the church to support mission projects with finances, volunteering and prayer.

Administrator

Our minister will oversee the administration of the church and serve as moderator of quarterly church business meetings.

Counselor

Our minister will serve as counselor for members of the congregation who need spiritual support/advice. Although he/she is not a medical doctor, he/she must maintain trust through strict confidentiality.

What We Can Offer

- We are looking for a **Part-Time Minister**.
- The position is paid as an **Independent Contractor**; the minister will receive a 1099 in January of each year and is responsible for paying his/her own taxes – we do not withhold FICA or Medicare from checks.
- We can offer monthly wages and reasonable travel expenses (open to negotiation).
- We can offer paid time off for vacation, sickness, or education (How many Sundays to be negotiated); the church will pay for a guest preacher during the minister's absence

We Are Not Able to Offer

- Housing
- Health Insurance (the church carries Workers Comp and General Liability Insurance).