

# <u>Overview</u>

### SENIOR PASTOR Woodlands Church

Woodlands Church (https://woodlandschurch.org) is an extraordinary place that is actively seeking a Senior Pastor to lead them with energy and passion to achieve their mission "to be a Christ-centered community helping people faithfully follow Jesus both locally and globally." Senior Pastor Brian Berg will retire May 1, 2023. His departure creates an exceptional opportunity for an experienced pastor to build on a solid foundation and lovingly guide Woodlands Church into the future God intends.

## <u>The Big Idea</u>



This is an exciting opportunity for a pastor who desires to lead a church toward more: more of Jesus, more spiritual growth and more Kingdom influence. Described as warm, friendly, authentic and down to earth, Woodlands is a healthy church ready to be challenged to stretch out in new ways. Moving into their new worship space during the pandemic has created an opportunity to discover fresh ways to help people engage in community and discipleship. As the world reopens, fresh opportunities for outreach locally and globally are waiting to be explored. The staff have been stretched thin over the last several years so there is a significant opportunity to cultivate, strengthen and develop the leadership potential and leadership community within Woodlands. Weekend services are excellent and attendees value biblically rich expository preaching delivered in a manner that is relevant and easy to grasp. A pastor who is an exceptional, relatable communicator of God's Word, and leads others from the overflow of his own walk, will encourage people to put their faith into action and make a difference wherever God leads them.

## <u>The Church</u>



#### Affiliation: Evangelical Free Church of America (https://www.efca.org)

Attendance: 1,400 (post-COVID in-person and on-line

About: Woodlands' Church is centrally located on a beautiful 18-acre property in Plover, Wisconsin (suburban Stevens Point). In 2020, they completed a state-of-the-art 1,200 seat worship center, café and gathering area. Two identical modern worship services are offered at 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. each Sunday. The church is served by an Elder team of eight and a talented staff of 30. Woodlands annual budget is approximately \$2.6M, with about 14 percent given to missions and outreach.

## The Candidate



The ideal candidate will lead out of a deep, intimate walk with Jesus. Warm and approachable, he will enjoy being a pastor and shepherding a flock, taking initiative to get to know people and communicating value to them. He will be experienced in the pulpit and will teach God's Word with authority, integrity and authenticity. He will understand the complexity and stressors that come from leading a large, multi-faceted congregation and be motivated by it. Team oriented and collaborative, the right pastor for Woodlands will love his staff and will enjoy working with them to advance ministry. He will delegate effectively and develop the strengths of others so the staff is equipped, engaged and empowered, and ministries are well-orchestrated. Following a long-tenured pastor is not easy, so it is critical the incoming pastor possess a humble yet confident persona that is grounded in their identity in Christ and in their sense of call from God to lead Woodlands Church.

### The Location



The metro area of Stevens Point, Wisconsin has a population of around 46,000 people, with about 88,000 people in a 30-mile radius. It is home to nearly 8,000 students who attend the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point. Many in this region come from a Catholic or Lutheran background so it is important to hold a respectful view of these faith traditions and helpful to know how to effectively communicate the Gospel message to people from this background. Woodlands cares deeply about being a positive member of the local community.

# The Qualifications



A full list of qualifications may be found by clicking the link below. No less than ten years of fulltime Senior Pastor or Campus Pastor ministry experience in a multi-staff setting with regular preaching opportunities and oversight of paid staff and volunteers in a church context of >500 attendees; Master of Divinity or equivalent is required; Elder qualified (Titus 1:5-9, 1 Tim. 3:1-7, 1 Peter 5:1-4); Theological agreement and support for the EFCA statement of faith (efca.org). Willingness to be credentialed and/or ordained in the Evangelical Free Church of America.

## Next Steps



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