



St John Baptist Church

12364 St John Church Road, Stony Creek VA 23882

Senior Pastoral Vacancy Announcement and Position Description

Overview: St John Baptist Church of Stony Creek, Virginia (SJBC) founded in 1883 is prayerfully seeking a spiritual leader who has been called by God, is a baptized believer and filled with the Holy Spirit, to serve as **Senior Pastor**.

The ideal applicant will be the spiritual leader for the congregation. A visionary with exceptional interpersonal, pastoral, and spiritual leadership skills. Additionally, the applicant must also be a preacher and teacher led by the Holy Spirit, with the ability to develop and deliver biblically sound, sermons and teachings. The qualified applicant is responsible to God and the church to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ, to teach the Bible, to provide Christian leadership in all areas of the church and to engage in the pastoral care for the congregation. Lastly, the Senior Pastor extends God's grace to others and leads by example as one who is relational, authentic, transparent, and humble.

POSITION SUMMARY: The Senior Pastor shall be a baptized believer who is firmly committed to the purpose of and dedicated to the total ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Senior Pastor shall preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, by precept and example.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Shepherd activities of the church including spiritual and fellowship activities and worship services. This will include:
 - Conducting all worship services as the lead preacher for fifty-two Sundays each year.
 - Having charge of the spiritual welfare of the congregation and all worship celebrations.
 - Teaching and Preaching from The Holy Bible.
 - Administering the Holy ordinances of Baptism and Communion.
 - Visiting the sick and shut-in.
 - Performing marriages, conducting funerals and infant dedications.
 - Representing the Church in civic matters, association meetings and conventions at the local, state, and national levels.
 - Attending church functions.
 - Responding to written and verbal communications.
 - Leading by example as one who is approachable, authentic, and transparent.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS OF THE SENIOR PASTOR:

- Must be a born again baptized believer, licensed, and ordained to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ in accordance with Baptist Doctrine and Baptist Principles.
- Must consent to a reference check and pass a standard background check.
- Shall become a member of SJBC prior to installation.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS OF THE SENIOR PASTOR:

- Pastoral experience in a Baptist Church.
- Possess an undergraduate degree, Master of Divinity (MDiv) seminary degree from a reputable accredited college or university.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with members of all ages and genders.
- Strong and effective verbal and written communication skills.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP: The Senior Pastor reports to God and the congregation.

PROCESS TO FILL SENIOR PASTOR POSITION:

Applications will be pre-screened and selected candidate(s) must (1) complete an interview, (2) preach sermon(s) before the SJBC congregation, and (3) undergo a background and reference check.

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF COMPLETE APPLICATION PACKET:

The completed application packet for all interested and qualified applicants **must be returned by February 14, 2026, or postmarked by February 14, 2026, if submitting via U.S. Mail.** Applications can be obtained from the St John Baptist Church Stony Creek VA website www.stjbc26.org.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE SENIOR PASTOR POSITION

The Pulpit Committee’s ability to become acquainted with you and to know your position on the inquired topics is extremely important. Accordingly, all parts of the application are required to be completed. If additional space is needed to respond to any inquiries, you may use additional sheets. Do not put “*see resume*” on your application in lieu of responding to any part of the application. The application must also be signed and dated.

Please note, a background check will be conducted on the finalist(s). Moreover, if at some point after submitting your application you are no longer interested in pursuing the Senior Pastor position, please notify the Senior Pastor Pulpit Committee via email at sjbcpulpit@aol.com immediately.

We take confidentiality seriously. All documents and information will be treated as “*Confidential*” and handled in that manner. Background checks will **only** be completed on finalists. Background check documents of finalists not selected will be shredded.

Application Submission

Applications may be returned in one (1) of two (2) methods*:

Method 1: U.S. Mail: Applications returned via U.S. Mail must be placed in a **sealed envelope** and addressed as follows:

St John Baptist Church
Confidential to the Attention of:
Deacon Vandy Jones
P.O. Box F
Stony Creek, VA 23882

Method 2: Via Email: Applications submitted via email should include the words “*Senior Pastor Search – your name*” **in the subject line** and sent to the SJBC Senior Pastor Pulpit Committee email: sjbcpulpit@aol.com.

It is important that you ensure a completed packet is submitted. A checklist is included in this packet to assist you with your submission. **Completed Application Packets must be returned by February 14, 2026, or postmarked by February 14, 2026, if submitting via U.S. Mail.**

*Additionally, sealed application packets marked “Confidential to the Attention of Deacon Vandy Jones”, may be hand delivered to Deacon Jones or an Usher following service on all Sundays in January 2026 and the first and second Sundays in February 2026.

II. PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

1. Number of years that you have been in the ministry _____

Continuous years? Yes No

Interrupted years? Yes No

2. Have you left behind any former pastorate indebtedness or cause for rumor, which would be considered controversial to your ministry? Yes No

If yes, please explain _____

3. Why are you seeking to leave your present ministry? _____

III. REFERENCES

Please list at least three (3) references.

Name	Phone Number ()
Address:	Type of Reference: <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy <input type="checkbox"/> Community/Personal <input type="checkbox"/> Business
Email Address:	
Name	Phone Number ()
Address:	Type of Reference: <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy <input type="checkbox"/> Community/Personal <input type="checkbox"/> Business
Email Address:	
Name	Phone Number ()
Address:	Type of Reference: <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy <input type="checkbox"/> Community/Personal <input type="checkbox"/> Business
Email Address:	

IV. APPLICANT’S STATEMENT

I certify that the answers herein are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

By signing my name below, I authorize St John Baptist Church, Stony Creek, VA to investigate all the statements contained in this application as well as all statements I make in any interview(s) that St John Baptist Church, Stony Creek, VA believes is necessary in arriving at an employment decision.

I hereby understand and acknowledge that, unless otherwise defined by applicable law or amended by written contract by the authorizing parties or amended by church governing law, any employment relationship with this organization is of an “at will” nature, which means that the Employee may resign at any time and the Employer may discharge Employee at any time with or without cause. It is further understood that this “at will” employment relationship may not be changed by any written document or by conduct unless such change is specifically acknowledged in writing by an authorized person(s) of this organization.

In the event of employment, I understand that false or misleading information given in my application or any interview(s) may result in discharge from employment. I understand, and agree, that I am required to abide by all rules and regulations of the employer.

Printed Name: _____

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

St John Baptist Church Packet Check List

You may use this checklist to ensure you have a complete packet for submission. Please remember to place your candidate packet in a sealed envelope, marked “Confidential” if mailing.

- Completed & signed application
- Letter of Intent (Cover Letter)
- Current Resume which includes a summary of relevant ministry, professional & educational experiences
- A video recording of a recent sermon within the last year including the date, time and location of the sermon submitted in one of the following formats: Links via Facebook, YouTube, Church website or DVD

Note: To avoid resubmission requests, please provide the correct link for recorded sermons on Facebook, YouTube or Church website and review all DVDs for errors prior to submission.

All documents will be treated as “**Confidential.**” Background checks will **only** be completed on the finalists. Background check documents of finalists not selected will be shredded.

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF COMPLETE APPLICATION PACKET: The Application and Questionnaire must be returned by February 14, 2026, or postmarked by February 14, 2026, if submitting via U.S. Mail.