

First Reformed Church  
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[www.firstreformedbluffton.org](http://www.firstreformedbluffton.org)

First Reformed Church, located in the small conservative town of Bluffton, Indiana is prayerfully seeking a full-time Senior Pastor. The Pastor must be theologically sound and uphold the authority of God's Word. The Pastor is responsible for strategic planning and staff coordination in the execution of the church's purpose, function and mission. The Pastor serves as director to ordained and lay staff and lay volunteers, and leads, evaluates, and mentors existing staff in their respective areas of ministry. The Pastor oversees and executes the administration of the church through appropriate staff and lay leadership teams and ensures the completion of ministry, business, facility, and logistical support functions through staff and lay volunteers. The Pastor will file monthly reports to the church Consistory on ministry accomplishments and activities and also record any church member funerals, dedications, and baptisms, as well as the names of new members who have joined the church.

#### **Qualifications of the Senior Pastor**

- Minimum of 5 years experience as a pastor
- A bachelor's degree in Biblical Studies or area of Theology preferred
- Must be ordained in their faith and their credentials recognized by the Evangelical Associate of Reformed and Congregational Christian Churches
- Good written and verbal communication skills
- Exceptional problem solving and conflict resolution skills
- Strong speaking and presentation skills
- Good active listening and willingness to help
- Service-oriented with genuine care for the wellbeing of people
- Excellent social perceptiveness and engagement
- Must be able to pass a background check, which includes both criminal and credit history
- Must be in agreement with the church's doctrinal statement

If you feel you are being called to fulfill our Senior Pastor need, please contact us at [firstref@adamswells.com](mailto:firstref@adamswells.com)

#### **Statement of Faith**

We believe there is one God, who is Creator and Redeemer (Genesis 1:1, John 1:1-3, and John 14:25-26). He exists in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

God the Father is Lord of heaven and earth. He seeks worshipers who worship Him in spirit and in truth. Out of His love, He gave His only begotten Son to redeem the world. (John 3:16 and John 4:24)

God the Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He brought the good news of the Kingdom of God in His preaching, teaching, and healing, fulfilling the Law and the word of the Prophets. He died for our sins, was raised from the dead, and set us free from the law of sin and death. He ascended into heaven, where He sits in authority at God's right hand, and reigns as the Head of His Body, the Church. His return is certain and imminent, at which time He will judge the living and the dead. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and Matthew 25:31-46).

God the Holy Spirit is the effective agent in our conviction of sin, regeneration, and sanctification. The Holy Spirit is the church's life and witnessing power. He equips the individual and church for practical, efficient, and joyous proclamation

of the Gospel message. In His gifts, He enables the believer to build and increase the church, achieving the common good to glorify the Son. (I Corinthians 12:7-11)

In Jesus Christ, we find the only way to salvation. This salvation, a free gift of God's grace, is received by faith, through believing in His death and resurrection. God is faithful to forgive, when we confess and repent of our sins and acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord. We acknowledge the need for each believer to make this Christian faith their own. (Romans 3:23, Romans 5:8-11, Romans 6:23, and Philippians 2:9-11).

We believe the Bible as the authoritative, inspired, inerrant, infallible Word of God, as defined in their original autographs. The Bible is that final authority upon which the Christian life is to be lived. The affirmation of the scriptures is found in such historic documents as the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, The Athanasian Creed, as these uphold the teaching of the Holy Scriptures.

We believe in the power of individual and corporate prayer, as exemplified by our Lord Jesus Christ. (Matthew 6:5-13 and Matthew 26:40-41)

We believe the greatest representation of scripture, regarding marriage, is between one man and one woman, as they have been created by God. We also believe that fidelity is part of the faithfulness in marriage. We believe that individuals who are not married should remain sexually pure before marriage.

We also believe that transgenderism, homosexuality, sex-change, non-binary or other gender identities, other than a biologically born male or female, stand outside the biblical interpretation of men and women and we stand upon the teachings of the Bible with that conviction. While God loves everyone, these cultural ideas fall outside the normalcy of Biblical authority, therefore, we reject them altogether.

We believe in the sanctity of human life at every stage of development, from conception until death. We believe that abortion and euthanasia (assisted suicide), fall outside our beliefs upheld in scripture and, therefore, reject them.

We recognize the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper (I Corinthians 11:23-26 and Matthew 28:18-20)