

Woodland Church (need color picture of front of church)

Woodland Church Profile

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N10234 Curry St. Ironwood MI 49938

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR IN OUR NEXT PASTOR?.....	3
WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?	4
WHERE DID WE COME FROM?	6
WHAT ARE SOME INTERESTING FACTS FROM OUR HISTORY?	7
WHAT IS OUR COMMUNITY LIKE?	9
WHAT ARE THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF OUR AREA?	9
WHO ARE THE MEMBERS OF THE PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE?.	13
WHAT HAS OCCURRED SINCE OUR PASTOR RESIGNED?	14

WHO ARE WE LOOKING TO LEAD US?

At this station in our church's life due to financial constraints we are in continued prayer for a Bi-Vocational pastor who brings strong faith, and biblical knowledge to the position. Someone who will provide strong leadership and wisdom while working with our Elders and Ministry Teams to build and maintain a strong collaborative relationship with them, our congregation, and community.

It is of utmost importance for our pastor to have a rich, intimate and growing relationship with the Lord; we rely on him to regularly encourage us to remain faithful to our core beliefs (as defined by our conference, Converge Great Lakes Baptist Conference, and as stated in our church profile), and to equip us to fulfill our God-directed mission.

We desire a pastor with strong communication skills. One who is able to Teach and Preach the Word of God in a effective manner in its entirety at an intermediate level in a biblically sound and relationally engaging style, able to effectively communicate to both those who are far from Christ as well as to those who are more mature in their walk with the Lord.

We desire a pastor who has vision and strategic planning skills, is able to develop and equip our congregation to take the church out into our community. A pastor with musical and worship abilities would also be greatly appreciated.

We desire a pastor who is relationally warm, confident, committed, and humble with the ability to lead the congregation well through weekly prayer and preaching/teaching.

Above all, we desire for lives to be transformed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ and are praying for a pastor who exemplifies this same passion.

Pastoral Job Description:

Per the current Woodland Church Constitution:

The pastor shall devote himself to the service of the church. He shall preach at church services, administer allowances, and be committed to prayer. The Pastor will moderate church business meetings, see that church records are preserved, and perform duties incumbent of this office. The Pastor shall submit a report of his work to the congregation at the annual church business

meeting. The Pastor shall be a member of the Board and ex-officio member of all teams and committees. The Pastor shall work in harmony with the Converge Great Lakes Conference and Converge Worldwide, and seek to enlist the support within the church of Conference enterprises. The Pastor shall Seek to work in harmony with area Conference ministries.

WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

1. **THE WORD OF GOD:** We believe the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error in the original manuscripts, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that it has supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct. (II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:20, 21; Mark 13:31)

2. **THE TRINITY:** We believe there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three persons, that these are equal in every divine perfection, and that they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence and redemption. (Genesis 1:1; John 1:1, 3; Matthew 28:19-20)

3. **GOD THE FATHER:** We believe in God, the Father, an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. We believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of all people, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ. (Luke 10:21-22; Romans 1:7; Matthew 23:9)

4. **JESUS CHRIST:** We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles and teachings. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and personal visible return to earth. (Matthew 1:18-25; John 1:1; 20:28; Ephesians 1:4)

5. **THE HOLY SPIRIT:** We believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ, and that He is an abiding helper, teacher and guide. (John 14:16, 17; Romans 8:9; Galatians 5:22-26)

6. **REGENERATION:** We believe all people are sinners by nature and by choice and are, therefore, under condemnation. We believe that those who repent of their sins and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit. (John 3:14; Romans 9:22; Ephesians 2:4-5)

7. **THE CHURCH:** We believe in the universal church; a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head and all regenerated persons are members. We believe in the local church, consisting of a company of believers in Jesus Christ, baptized on a credible profession of

faith, and associated for worship, work and fellowship. We believe God has laid upon the members of the local church the primary task of giving the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost world. (Ephesians 2:19-22; Acts 1:8; Hebrews 10:23-25)

8. CHRISTIAN CONDUCT: We believe Christians should live for the glory of God and the wellbeing of others; that their conduct should be blameless before the world; that they should be faithful stewards of their possessions; and that they should seek to realize for themselves and others the full stature of maturity in Christ. (I Corinthians 10:31; Romans 12:1-3; Colossians 1:9-10).

5

9. THE ORDINANCES: We believe the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local church: baptism and the Lord's Supper. We believe Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water into the name of the triune God. We believe the Lord's Supper was instituted by Christ for commemoration of His death. We believe these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. (Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 6:3-5; I Corinthians 11:23-26).

10. RELIGIOUS LIBERTY: We believe every human being has direct relations with God, and is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith; that each church is independent and must be free from interference by any ecclesiastical or political authority; that therefore Church and State must be kept separate as having different functions, each fulfilling its duties free from dictation or patronage of the other. (I Timothy 2:5; Romans 14:7-9, 12)

11. CHURCH COOPERATION: We believe local churches can best promote the cause of Jesus Christ by cooperating with one another in a denominational organization. Such an organization, whether it is the Conference or a district conference, exists and functions by the will of the churches. Cooperation in a conference is voluntary and may be terminated at any time. Churches may likewise cooperate with interdenominational fellowships on a voluntary independent basis. (Acts 15:36, 41; Galatians 1:1-3; Revelation 1:4, 10-11).

12. THE LAST THINGS: We believe in the personal and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to earth and the establishment of His kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the eternal felicity of the righteous, and the endless suffering of the wicked. (Matthew 16:27; I Thessalonians 4:15-18; Revelation 20:4-6; 11-15)

WHERE DID WE COME FROM?

First Swedish Baptist Church started in Ironwood MI in 1887. In October of 1889 a lot was purchased on Mansfield St and by April 1890 the new building for the First Swedish Baptist Church was erected and dedicated. The church stayed in this same location for the next 87 years dropping the “Swedish” from its name along the way, when the church purchased property and erected a new building on Curry St.

First Baptist Church changed its name to Community Baptist Church and held its inaugural service at this new location on April 7, 1977. Services have continued at this location ever since.

In 1999 the church renamed itself once again to Woodland Church. The church has continued to serve the Ironwood and surrounding communities through various outreach endeavors since its inception in 1887.

WHAT ARE SOME INTERESTING FACTS FROM OUR CHURCH HISTORY?

English Services were started being held the first Sunday of every month starting in 1920

From 1946 to 1974 the church ran and maintained its own Bible Camp at Lake Superior.

In the early 2000's the church started a second hand store and pregnancy support service called New Beginnings. Within 5 years of New Beginnings opening, the church separated itself from the New Beginnings Ministry to allow for other churches and Christian entities to become part of this ministry. We still support this ministry today.

WHAT IS OUR IRONWOOD COMMUNITY LIKE?

(This information taken from the 2010 US Census)

Woodland church draws its members from Gogebic County MI and Iron County WI. The main cities that we draw our congregation from are Ironwood MI, Hurley WI, Kimble WI, Bessemer MI, Ramsay MI, and Mellen WI. Ironwood and Bessemer have the largest populations with the other towns being smaller.

WHAT ARE THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF OUR AREA?

GOGEBIC COUNTY MI

<u>Population</u>	
Population estimates, July 1, 2019, (V2019)	13,975
Population estimates base, April 1, 2010, (V2019)	16,424
Population, percent change - April 1, 2010 (estimates base) to July 1, 2019, (V2019)	-14.9%
Population, Census, April 1, 2010	16,427
<u>Age and Sex</u>	
Persons under 5 years, percent	4.4%
Persons under 18 years, percent	16.8%
Persons 65 years and over, percent	28.6%
Female persons, percent	49.3%

<u>Race and Hispanic Origin</u>	
White alone, percent	93.6%
Black or African American alone, percent(a)	0.6%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent(a)	3.4%
Asian alone, percent(a)	0.5%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent(a)	0.1%
Two or More Races, percent	1.9%
Hispanic or Latino, percent(b)	1.8%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent	92.2%
<u>Housing</u>	
Housing units, July 1, 2019, (V2019)	10,788
Owner-occupied housing unit rate, 2014-2018	78.7%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2014-2018	\$69,900
Median selected monthly owner costs -with a mortgage, 2014-2018	\$887
Median selected monthly owner costs -without a mortgage, 2014-2018	\$377
Median gross rent, 2014-2018	\$494
<u>Families & Living Arrangements</u>	
Households, 2014-2018	6,619
Persons per household, 2014-2018	2.11
Living in same house 1 year ago, percent of persons age 1 year+, 2014-2018	91.3%
<u>Education</u>	

High school graduate or higher, percent of persons age 25 years+, 2014-2018	93.3%
Bachelor's degree or higher, percent of persons age 25 years+, 2014-2018	19.8%
<u>Transportation</u>	
Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers age 16 years+, 2014-2018	17.3
<u>Income & Poverty</u>	
Median household income (in 2018 dollars), 2014-2018	\$38,798
Per capita income in past 12 months (in 2018 dollars), 2014-2018	\$24,325
Persons in poverty, percent	17.5%
<u>Geography</u>	
Population per square mile, 2010	14.9
Land area in square miles, 2010	1,101.85
IRON COUNTY WI	
<u>Population</u>	
Population estimates, July 1, 2019, (V2019)	5,687
Population estimates base, April 1, 2010, (V2019)	5,916
Population, percent change - April 1, 2010 (estimates base) to July 1, 2019, (V2019)	-3.9%

Population, Census, April 1, 2010

5,916

Age and Sex

Persons under 5 years, percent

3.1%

Persons under 18 years, percent

15.1%

Persons 65 years and over, percent

32.1%

Female persons, percent

49.6%

Race and Hispanic Origin

White alone, percent

96.0%

Black or African American alone, percent(a)

0.3%

American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent(a)

1.6%

Asian alone, percent(a)

0.4%

Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone,
percent(a)

0.0%

Two or More Races, percent

1.8%

Hispanic or Latino, percent(b)

1.4%

Housing

Housing units, July 1, 2019, (V2019)

6,131

Owner-occupied housing unit rate, 2014-2018

74.9%

Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2014-2018

\$113,100

Median selected monthly owner costs -with a mortgage,
2014-2018

\$1,022

Median selected monthly owner costs -without a mortgage,
2014-2018

\$435

Median gross rent, 2014-2018

\$535

Families & Living Arrangements

Households, 2014-2018

3,003

Persons per household, 2014-2018

1.86

Living in same house 1 year ago, percent of persons age 1 year+, 2014-2018

84.2%

Education

High school graduate or higher, percent of persons age 25 years+, 2014-2018

93.7%

Bachelor's degree or higher, percent of persons age 25 years+, 2014-2018

20.0%

Transportation

Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers age 16 years+, 2014-2018

20.9

Income & Poverty

Median household income (in 2018 dollars), 2014-2018

\$40,801

Per capita income in past 12 months (in 2018 dollars), 2014-2018

\$28,550

Persons in poverty, percent

13.2%

Geography

Population per square mile, 2010

7.8

Land area in square miles, 2010

758.17

WHO ARE THE MEMBERS OF THE PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE?

David Block

Gabriele Block

Jerry Wanink*

Pamela Calkins

Ryan Fyle*

***Members of the Elder Board**

WOODLAND CHURCH PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Woodland Church

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Ironwood MI, 49938

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WHAT HAS OCCURRED SINCE OUR PASTOR RESIGNED?

Pastor Michael Hill was asked to resign from his position at Woodland Church in March of 2019. It had come to the attention of the Elder Board that there was infidelity within his marriage with himself and another member within the Woodland Church congregation.

From that point forward the Elder Board has been working with the Great Lakes Baptist Conference and specifically Pastor Gary Harrison from the GLBC for pulpit supply and for continued prayer and healing for our church congregation. The loss of our pastor and the circumstances of his departure have had a devastating effect on us and we are still in the healing process.

Since Sept 2019 we have had the gift of retired Pastor Curt Thompson and his wife Maureen as an interim Pastor. He has helped us pull ourselves out of the “Miry Clay”, and start the process of our Pastoral search.

We are a small congregation, but we are strong in our conviction to carry on God’s work in our community and the world through our support of missionaries. We are looking forward to meeting our new Pastor and continuing the great commission.

