



Lennox Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, PCA
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Striving daily to grow in the grace of Christ and to share that grace with others.

Church Profile Information

Lennox Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, PCA,
is seeking a full-time pastor.

Correspondence regarding the position should be addressed to:

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I. Who We Are

1. Introduction

Ebenezer means 'Rock of Help'. The Apostle Paul said that 'this Rock is Jesus Christ' (1 Cor. 10:4). Jesus said, "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on the house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock."

Since 1888, Lennox Ebenezer Presbyterian Church has strived to be just that – founded on the rock of Jesus Christ. For the sole glory of God, everything we do is geared toward growing deeper in our relationship with our Savior and glorifying Him with our lives. The church's vision is accomplished in these four areas of worship:

Worship & Music

To see the body of Christ hungering and thirsting for God as we come together by offering dynamic, spirit filled and vibrant worship.

Christian Education

To make Christian education a priority for everyone in the church through Sunday school, Bible studies, and small group ministries.

Missions

To place missions deeply upon the hearts of our people by offering ourselves to both local and foreign mission opportunities.

Outreach & Fellowship

To be a welcoming and receptive church where every person is an inviter of others.

The congregation at LEPC is a mix of generations from a variety of professions. A large number of members are involved in the agricultural industry; many members work in Sioux Falls in medical, banking, and other professional careers; other members are small business owners and teachers.

LEPC provides a live worship service feed to the local nursing home each Sunday. Volunteers assist residents in getting to the commons area where the worship service is broadcast. The worship service is also shown live each week on the local cable network. DVD recordings of worship services and other special events are available for shut-ins or those who are unable to attend church or receive the live broadcast.

Ebenezer has a powerful mid-week (Wednesday night) program for youth ministries. This program is well-attended by youth from our own congregation, in addition to others from the community, including those who are unchurched. The program spills over into summer programs (camp and Vacation Bible School), and has brought several families into our congregation.

The Lord has blessed Ebenezer with many members that have extraordinary musical talents, and as a result, music is a vital part of every worship service. A blend of traditional and contemporary music is used to glorify God, using piano, organ, and guitar accompaniment. The praise band (vocals, bass guitar, guitar, pianos, and drums) sings once a month, the choir sings once a month and often performs cantatas for Christmas or Easter, and special music includes a variety of instrumental and vocal talent.

LEPC is unique in that it contains the original pipe organ that was installed in the 1917 church building. The organ was moved into the new sanctuary in 1960 and was cleaned and refurbished at that time. In 2003, a fund raising campaign allowed for the organ to be totally redone, which included the addition of a rank of pipes in the front and the conversion to computerized controls, rather than electric over air (the pipe organ has an estimated worth of \$400,000!).

The following church demographic information is based on 2008 year-end statistics:

- Membership – 397
 - Number of adults over 65 – 90
 - Number of adults 20 to 64 – 257
 - Number of teens (high school and college-aged) – 50
 - Average attendance at Sunday morning worship – 200
- Youth activity attendance:
 - High school – 27
 - Middle school – 23
 - Pre-K through 5th grade – 27
 - Ages 4 and under – 14
- Financial information (2008)

• Total income	\$135,612.62
• Total expenses	\$149,891.55
• Balance at end of year	\$36,519.71
• Total amount given to missions	\$51,818.10

2. Purpose and Vision

That the people of Ebenezer Church may

KNOW GOD

...that He is a Holy and Awesome God

...that He demands perfection

...and that we are insufficient to come before Him

AND HIS GRACE

...that He provided our means of salvation

...that through the body and blood of His Son we are made Holy and Blameless

...that we receive this salvation by Faith alone as a truly free gift to us offered only through Jesus Christ

That the people of Ebenezer Church may respond to the knowledge of God and His Grace by

MAKING HIM KNOWN

...by offering ourselves as living sacrifices to His glory alone!

...by praising Him before all men

...by reflecting His love to others

3. History of the church

The Lennox Ebenezer Presbyterian Church had its official beginning December 6, 1888, as a German-speaking congregation called The Ebenezer German Presbyterian Church. The first church building was built in 1889, and was 28' by 40'. In 1917, the church building was replaced with a brick building, which included a Moeller pipe organ. This building served the congregation well during the Great Depression and drought, and through World War II. Church records state that the annual budget of the church was \$3000 in 1932, and also that a vote at the 1945 annual congregational meeting specified all English services would be held in the future. In 1944, fire destroyed the Lennox grade school, and the church's Sunday School rooms were used for grade school students for the next two school years.

On April 11, 1945, the church was incorporated using the name Ebenezer Presbyterian Church of Lennox. On December 8, 1959, a special congregation meeting was held to vote on building a new sanctuary onto the west end of the original church building. This sanctuary was built with the help of many members of the congregation, and was dedicated on July 2, 1961. The old

sanctuary was remodeled into classrooms, a kitchen, and a small social hall area.

In 1974, the church became the United Presbyterian Church. On November 24, 1980, the congregation voted to withdraw from the United Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, and in March of 1981, the church joined The Presbyterian Church in America. After a legal battle was resolved with the United Presbyterian denomination over ownership of the church property, the church was officially named Lennox Ebenezer Presbyterian Church in 1984.

In 1988, a social hall and office area was constructed on the west side of the sanctuary. A new chapter is being completed in the building history of LEPC today, as a new education wing and multi-purpose room is being constructed on the site of the 1917 building.

Lennox Ebenezer Presbyterian Church has a history of long-tenured pastors. Since 1888, 14 men have served as pastors and only four have served the church in the last 50 years! Pastor David Young began his pastorate at LEPC in August of 1999. He is responding to God's call to plant a church in Crestview, Florida, and resigned his position here on October 28, 2009.

4. Future of the church

"Praise for the Past, Faith for the Future" is the theme of the building project that is in progress at Lennox Ebenezer. This project will provide new classroom space for Christian Education, as well as a large multi-purpose room. The project began three years ago with the formation of a vision committee. The committee developed a long-range vision for the building needs of the church, with the following vision statement: *Our vision is to create a user-friendly space both attractive and functional that will serve the purpose and mission of Lennox Ebenezer Presbyterian Church so that....*

....we might better minister to those already within the church

....we can draw in those who are loosely attached to the church

....we will be an open door to those outside the church.

The congregation approved this vision statement, and voted to form a building committee and a financial committee. These two committees worked to produce a building plan and a financial plan that would meet the needs of the church, as identified by the vision statement. The finance committee focused on awareness and inspiration through the use of newsletters, devotionals, visual reminders, and a focused day of prayer prior to asking members of the congregation for financial commitments to the project. God works in great ways, and the First Fruits Sunday in February 2009 produced pledges of \$450,000!

Project construction began in August, with the demolition of the original 1917 structure of the church. At this time, the walls are going up on the new addition, with an expected completion date of April, 2010.

5. Missions

Lennox Ebenezer Presbyterian Church believes that offering ourselves to local and foreign mission opportunities is an important part of God's plan. Many local and foreign missions are supported financially. Mission offerings are taken once a month, in addition to the annual Mission Fest event which is held in the fall. The Christian Education program designates special mission projects for each quarter of the year, with all Sunday School offerings going to those designated missions.

The church also endeavors to regularly offer mission trip opportunities to the congregation. The church has sponsored two trips to Capetown, South Africa to come alongside our own missionary currently serving there, in working with college students. There have been two evangelist trips to Mexico, assistance with disaster relief in Iowa, and youth SERVE trips to various places in the United States. The most recent trip occurred in July of 2009 when a team of eleven traveled to Haiti to work with an orphanage mission there.

LEPC supports the following missions:

Global Ministries:

- Jim and Sue Akovenko, *The Seed Company*
- Rick and Pam Box, *Mission to the World*
- Dr. David and Karen Drake, *Medical Ambassadors International*
- Peter and Esther Errington, *Mission to Unreached Peoples*

- Ross and Ellen Errington, *Wycliff Bible Translators*
- Chris and Josephine Hatch, *World Harvest Mission*
- Brad and Patti Wos, *Mission to the World*
- Paul and Liz Meiners, *Mission to the World*
- Ken and Kim Thompson, *Mission to the World*
- 1st Lieutenant Sam Rico, *Chaplain US Army*

Local and Regional Ministries:

- Alpha Center (Sioux Falls, SD), Crisis pregnancy center
- Bethany Christian Services (Sioux Falls, SD), Private adoption agency and crisis pregnancy counseling
- Cono Christian School (Walker, IA), Boarding and day school
- Gideons International, Bible placement
- Union Gospel Mission (Sioux Falls, SD), Mission outreach to the homeless

Denominational Ministries:

- Covenant College
- Covenant Theological Seminary
- Reformed University Fellowships
- Mission to the World
- Mission to North America
- PCA Compassion
- PCA Mercy Ministries
- PCA Ministerial Relief
- Christian Education and Publications
- Presbytery of the Siouxlands

6. Programs and outreach

Children and Youth Ministries:

- Kidz Zone (pre-K - 5th grade) meets Wednesday nights
- Juniors for Jesus (6th - 8th grade) meets Wednesday nights
- Refuge (high school) meets Wednesday nights
- Vacation Bible School (Pre-K – 9th grade) is held for a week in the summer
- Summer Bible camp (4th grade through high school) attend camp at Camp Judson in the Black Hills for one week in the summer
- Sunday school (pre-K through high school) meets weekly on Sunday mornings following church
- Winter Youth Retreat (weekend high school retreat for area youth, held in February)

Women's Ministries:

- Work groups for serving funerals and other events

- Mercy Ministry provides meals for those in the congregation who have been hospitalized, as well as a prayer chain for prayer concerns
- Bible Studies
- J.O.Y. (Jesus, Others, and You) is a fellowship for women who live alone

Outreach and Fellowship:

- No-Cook Wednesday is a meal served every Wednesday night for those involved in the youth activities
- Gospel Music Festival
- Mission Fest celebration every fall
- Small group Bible studies
- Good Samaritan Nursing Home (Sunday morning worship service)

Men's Ministries:

- Rise with the Guys, a monthly breakfast meeting and devotional

7. The Exchange

The Exchange is a food pantry that is operated by LEPC volunteers. It began over 20 years ago when a married couples group in the church began a clothing exchange for their children. This clothing 'exchange' was opened up to the public as well. One Christmas, a 4-H club in the community asked if they could make food donations as a community service project. The Exchange has continued to grow since then as a food pantry for temporary needs in Lennox and the surrounding communities. In addition to support through the ministry of LEPC, it is supported very generously by area churches, community organizations, and the school. The Boy Scouts do an annual food drive, as does the Post Office. A recent food drive done as a homecoming event in the middle school produced over 800 food items for The Exchange!

8. Staff

The pastor of LEPC has a support staff which includes a secretary and a custodian.

Kathy Bunger is the secretary of LEPC. She works in the church office four days a week, and is responsible for preparation of the weekly worship folder, monthly newsletter and other church correspondence.

Marlyn Bunger provides custodial and maintenance services for the church on a part-time basis.

Many volunteers support the pastor in other ways, including management of the audio/visual system during worship services, music coordinator (responsible for special music arrangements), choir directors, organists and pianists, ushers, etc.

9. Congregational Priorities for Ministry

LEPC considers the following aspects of ministry to carry a high priority:

1. Proclamation of The Word

The word of God is preached with urgency and conviction, bringing it to bear on the changing needs of individuals, the community, and the world. High priority of pastor's time placed on sermon preparation.

2. Teaching Responsibility

Pastor accepts an active teaching role, interpreting and teaching the Scriptures, theological concepts, history of the Church and current events; provides instruction for Church Officers; educational leaders, confirmands and new members.

3. Worship Leadership

Pastor and Session work to develop a rich worship life, educating the congregation for meaningful participation.

4. Spiritual Development of Members

Pastor shares members' struggles regarding the Christian faith, with opportunity provided for individuals and groups to reflect on beliefs, concerns, doubts regarding Christian understanding of the spiritual dimensions of life.

5. Evangelism

Pastor and congregation share faith in Christ as personal Savior in total lifestyle; seek to lead others within and outside the Church to accept Jesus Christ: congregation is informed, trained, helped to establish effective evangelism programs for the church.

6. Administrative Leadership

Pastor accepts appropriate administrative responsibilities, in climate of delegated tasks and shared leadership; volunteers and professional staff encouraged to use their ideas and skills. Work done on developing accountability.

II. Where We Are

Lennox is a thriving community of 2800, located near Interstate 29 in south eastern South Dakota. It was founded in 1879 along the Milwaukee Railroad. Lennox is located in Lincoln County, which is the fastest growing county in South Dakota. Lennox is surrounded by prime agricultural land, which is used primarily to produce corn

and soybeans. Three manufacturing businesses in Lennox are related to the agriculture industry, and a regional ethanol plant is located nearby, along with a livestock sale facility.

Lennox enjoys all the benefits of small town life, while being only 15 minutes away from Sioux Falls, the largest city in South Dakota. Sioux Falls is home to two large area medical centers, several universities and technical schools, a large banking industry, and many other professional, retail, and non-professional opportunities.

Lennox is served by the Lennox School District, which is a consolidated school district including the neighboring communities of Chancellor and Worthing. Each community has an elementary school containing grades Kindergarten through 5th grade. The middle school (6th through 8th grade) and high school are both located in Lennox. School activities and events are proudly supported by the three communities served by the school district.

III. Who God has chosen for us

1. Pastor Criteria

LEPC prefers a pastor who is married and who demonstrates the love of Christ by the way he loves his family. He should be between the ages of 30 and 50, and have at least 3 years of experience as a solo pastor, youth pastor, or associate pastor.

The following strengths have been identified as important for the pastor to possess: Preaching, Teaching, Evangelism/Mission, Discipleship, Worship Leadership, and Christian Education.

2. Qualifications

- Demonstrate a life in conformity with an elder as described in I Timothy 3:2-7, Titus 1:6-9, and 1 Peter 5:1-4.
- Interpret, proclaim, and communicate the truth of the Scriptures according to the Reformed tradition as understood by the PCA.
- Possess a Master of Divinity degree from a recognized seminary.

- Be an ordained minister or seeking ordination, acceptable to the Presbyterian Church in America and with a commitment to Reformed theology.

3. Job Responsibilities

The responsibility of the pastor is to lead the congregation in the continuing earthly ministry of Jesus Christ in word and deed.

- Preach the full counsel of God's word faithfully each week for the morning worship service and other services as directed by the Session, accurately and effectively communicating the inerrant Scriptures in today's context. Weekly worship services and preaching are to be of such quality that the growth of the body will follow.
- Teach Sunday School and/or discipleship/Bible study classes as the church has need.
- Administer the sacraments in a meaningful way.
- Oversee, either directly or indirectly, entire church ministries including worship, outreach, missions, visitation, Christian education, discipleship, shepherding, small groups (in coordination with the Session, and lay leaders); and guide the development of any new programs and ministries.
- Provide ongoing evaluation of the programs and ministries of the church.
- Provide spiritual care, support, and counseling as necessary to church members and their families.
- Visit parishioners as needed.
- Conduct pre-marital counseling, weddings, and funerals; chair Session meetings; and be available at the church for pastoral ministry.
- Provide leadership for the support staff through supervision, solving problems, resolving conflicts, offering encouragement, giving counsel, and evaluating performance.
- Provide leadership as needed to assure good communications within the church body and to the community at large.
- Actively represent LEPC within the denomination and throughout the community.

4. Accountability

- The pastor will be evaluated regularly by the Session.

5. Salary

- The salary package, including housing and insurance, is negotiable.

IV. Appendix

1. Related websites

- Lennox Ebenezer Presbyterian Church:
<http://www.lennoxpca.org>
- City of Lennox:
www.cityoflennoxsd.com
- Lennox School District:
<http://www.lennox.k12.sd.us>
- State of South Dakota:
<http://www.sd.gov>
- City of Sioux Falls:
<http://www.siouxfalls.org>

2. Pictures (see the following page)

