

Senior Pastor

Kirby Woods Baptist Church

Memphis, TN

www.kwbc.org

History/Background

Kirby Woods Baptist Church (KWBC) is an established Southern Baptist church located in Memphis, TN. The church campus, situated on 5.5 acres, is debt-free. KWBC is centrally located, facing one of the main corridors through the city: high rise office buildings, hospitals, shopping malls, schools, restaurants, and residential subdivisions within walking distance of the property. KWBC was founded in 1980 and has a unique focus on church planting and mission work. Many church members go out each year on various church-sponsored mission trips, both in the U.S. or overseas. The church's support of missionaries, new church starts, and missions organizations reaches many parts of the world. KWBC has had four senior pastors in its thirty-seven year history. The current average attendance in Sunday School is approximately 650.

Our Community

The Memphis metropolitan area (sometimes called The Mid-South) consists of urban, suburban, and rural communities in the states of Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas. KWBC is strategically located in East Memphis, between the urban core of Downtown and Midtown and the outlying suburban communities. East Memphis is a bustling commercial and residential area, and the Poplar Corridor is one of the highest volume traffic areas of the city. KWBC has members living in all three surrounding states and many suburbs, including Germantown, Collierville, Olive Branch, Bartlett, Arlington, and many more. The Memphis metro area boasts well-known cultural and historical sites, as well as world-class universities and research institutions. Shelby Farms, the nation's largest urban park, is a destination for both locals and tourists. Downtown is home to professional sports, theater, a fantastic zoo and other exciting entertainment opportunities. St. Jude stands prominently among many other well-known healthcare systems and research hospitals. The Memphis metro area is home to several strong public and private school systems.

Mission, Values, Strategies

Mission: *Connecting all people to engage in the mission of Christ*

Values:

1. *Centered Biblically*
2. *Responsive Globally and Locally*
3. *Connected Relationally*
4. *Dependent Intentionally*

Strategies: *Connect, Equip, Serve*

Ministries and Programs

KWBC has two worship services each week: Sunday morning and Sunday evening. Wednesday night features many opportunities for all age groups: a fellowship dinner, Equipping University classes, a small prayer and worship service, adult choir, orchestra, Kid Connect, youth worship, and young adult worship. Sunday School classes meet on Sunday morning and several small groups meet in members' homes throughout the week.

The music ministry is currently volunteer-led and uses a choir, orchestra, praise team, and praise band to lead the congregation in musical worship, incorporating a variety of musical styles. A full-time music leader has historically been a part of KWBC's pastoral staff, and this position is expected to be filled in the near future. Choir and orchestra rehearse on Wednesday nights.

The missions ministry sends teams to places in North America and around the world on short-term mission trips. KWBC partners with IMB missionaries, church plants, and other organizations to effectively serve and minister in areas of need. A highly innovative puppet ministry team is made up of older students sharing the gospel message locally and nationally through kid-friendly musical performances. The people of KWBC also give generously through the "Love Offering For Jesus," a special offering dedicated to local, regional, and international missions agencies. The biggest missions event of the year is the Global Impact Conference, held in November.

Our recreation ministry participates in various sports for both kids and adults, and the gym hosts league basketball and other activities throughout the year.

Men's and women's ministries offer Bible study, discipleship, and other opportunities for members to build meaningful relationships with each other.

A family ministry structure includes milestones from birth through high school graduation and assists the family in the following ways:

- 1) equip parents and grandparents to disciple their children
- 2) disciple young Christians to grow in their faith. Children, students, and young adults have unique opportunities to worship and study the Bible throughout the week, while also building relationships through social events and activities.

The senior adult ministry meets every Thursday morning for Bible study and takes frequent trips to local and regional attractions.

Our largest community outreach event of the year is the Fall Festival, an annual Halloween alternative hosted at the church and attended by approximately 1000 people.

KWBC ministers to one of the largest deaf congregations in our convention and has a Deaf Pastor to meet those special needs.

KWBC has other language churches with dedicated pastors for each: a Korean ministry and a Hispanic ministry.

Candidate Profile

Kirby Woods Baptist Church is seeking a man called by God and ordained into Gospel Ministry whose life is characterized by the qualities set forth in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9. The qualified candidate will have an undergraduate degree from an accredited college or university and a seminary degree from an accredited seminary. Five-plus years of experience as a lead pastor is preferred; however time and experience leading other pastors and ministry teams will be considered. He must affirm the Baptist Faith and Message 2000.

In addition to the basic qualifications listed above, Kirby Woods Baptist Church seeks a pastor who:

- Has a growing relationship with Jesus Christ
- Preaches God's Word boldly and with doctrinal clarity, eager to apply the scriptures to the people of Kirby Woods Baptist Church
- Loves the people (the flock) as a biblical under-shepherd and invests time, energy, and prayer with the congregation
- Provides visionary leadership in line with the Mission of Christ and the counsel of scripture
- Lives a life of prayer and embodies the biblical principles of private prayer and corporate prayer, leading the congregation to pray regularly
- Has a passion for intergenerational ministry modeled in Deuteronomy 6 and Titus 2
- Has a desire to build healthy marriages, support families and promote family worship
- Has a passion for missions (local, national, and international)
- Pursues efforts to minister across barriers of race, economics, and social status
- Models personal evangelism and motivates the congregation to share the gospel
- Models discipleship and motivates the congregation to make disciples in accordance with the Great Commission
- Equips and personally participates with the congregation for the work of ministry, avoiding the pitfall of limiting ministry work to paid professionals (church staff)