

# Friendship Baptist Church



## Pastoral Search Prospectus

Pastor Search Opens March 2024

Friendship Baptist Church

2912 Pleasant Grove Rd. Lansing, MI 48910

# About Friendship Baptist Church

Friendship Baptist Church was founded in 1934 in Lansing, Michigan. It has a rich history as an African American church that has been served by eight seated pastors.

Friendship is a member-led church where the Pastor works in strong partnership with the Deacon Board and the Trustee Board to achieve the spiritual and financial goals of the church. The current congregation consists of 79 active members with aspirations for significantly growing the current congregation into a diverse body of Christians.

Friendship as a ministry is guided by the Baptist Articles of Faith as defined by the National Baptist Convention and the Friendship Church Covenant and Affirmation Statements.

In 2018, the church completed a visioning process that resulted in the definition of the church's Vision, Mission and Core Values. Our vision is to be "A Church of love who helps people know Jesus!" Our mission is "To grow in Christ and in service to the community."

Both our vision and mission are actualized by our core values where we've committed as a congregation to welcome unconditionally; worship with joy; study to affirm belief; serve without restraint; and witness through generosity!

## Ministries

Weekly worship service is held Sundays at 11 a.m. Sunday School precedes worship service at 9:30 a.m. Weekly ministry includes the Friendship Bible Institute which offers in-depth study and discussion of books of the Bible. All are accessible by teleconference.

Prayer meeting provides opportunity for both corporate and individual prayer, scripture readings, testimony and song as attendees are led by the Holy Spirit. Prayer meeting is held each Wednesday at 6 p.m. and is followed by Bible Institute from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Friendship currently has two worship choirs – The Inspirational Choir that provides traditional gospel choral music and the Voices of Praise which features both traditional and contemporary gospel vocals accompanied by recorded music. In addition to piano and organ musicians, Worship Service occasionally features guest instrumentalists on percussion, wind and string instruments.

**Friendship's Vision:**  
*A Church of love who  
helps people know Jesus!*

**Friendship's Mission:**  
*To grow in Christ and  
in service to the community."*

## Mission Work

Friendship Baptist has four active mission circles that include Circle No. 4; Laymen's League; Reachout Mission Circle and the Youth Mission Seekers. These mission groups provide members with opportunities for mission study and service both to members of the congregation and to the greater Lansing community.

Annual mission work includes Thanksgiving Basket distribution; school supply campaigns to support Lansing School District schools; both mobile food pantry hosting and ongoing year-round food collection support.

The circles work in partnership with a variety of community organizations to meet emergent community needs and requests for support and service.

Friendship also provides support for community emergency needs through the church's benevolence fund.

## Governance

As a member-led church, governance is defined by the church's Constitution and Bylaws with most major, non-spiritual decisions made through congregational vote. The congregation meets monthly to conduct the business of the church following an agenda developed by the Deacon and Trustee Boards.

The Deacon Board, which is the governing board of the church, consists of 11 active Deacons who are appointed for life. The Trustee Board consists of a minimum of nine members, one-third of which are elected to three-year terms each year.

Other church officers include the deaconesses, church treasurer, assistant church treasurer, church financial secretary, assistant financial secretary, church clerk, assistant church clerk, announcement clerks, parliamentarian and moderator.

The church seats an Advisory Council that consists of the leaders of the church's constitutionally defined auxiliaries and four at-large elected members. The council has responsibility to review all new program ideas that involve property, church finances and will engage the entire membership. This review results in recommendations to the Deacon and Trustee Boards for congregational consideration.

The Advisory Council also has responsibility for conducting pastoral performance evaluations.

## Church Campus

The Friendship Baptist Church home is a 37,000 square foot facility that sits on 15.9 acres in Southwest Lansing.

The facility includes the sanctuary, fellowship hall, commercial-grade kitchen and an administrative wing and classroom wing with spaces that are available for internal member use and external rental.

## Finances

The fixed and current assets of Friendship Baptist Church include property, cash and reserves. The main liability consists of the mortgage on the Church building, which is under \$1 million.

In 2022, Friendship established an endowment fund with the Capital Region Community Foundation to encourage long-term investments in current and future ministries and operations of the church.

### CHURCH CONTACT:

Address:

2912 Pleasant Grove Rd.  
Lansing, MI. 48910

Phone: 517-394-6369

Fax: 517-394-6960

Web:

[friendshipbaptistlansing.org](http://friendshipbaptistlansing.org)

The Friendship Baptist Church  
Pastoral Search Committee

Trustee Deborah Sudduth, Chair  
Trustee Board Representative  
Deaconess Sallie Flanders,  
Advisory Council Representative  
Sister Lori Fluker,  
Member At Large  
Deacon Larry Griffin,  
Deacon Board Representative  
Sister Cheryl Howell,  
Advisory Council Representative  
Deacon Donald Suttles  
Trustee Board Representative  
Brother Fred Whiting  
Member At Large  
Deacon James Yarborough  
Deacon Board Representative  
Trustee Xavier Yarborough  
Member At Large

### Contact:

[FBCPastorSearch2024@gmail.com](mailto:FBCPastorSearch2024@gmail.com)