

Prayer Guide for Pastor Search



Worship. Discipleship. Service.

633 Lower Creek Drive
Lenoir, NC 28645
Lowercreek.org

Dear Lower Creek Baptist Church Family,

Thank you for taking the time to pick up this prayer guide. As your Pastor Search Committee, we believe this is a time of great importance in our church's history. We have been given the opportunity to seek God's face and ask for His wisdom in determining whom He has called to be the next pastor of Lower Creek Baptist Church.

We thank you for trusting our leadership. This is a task that we do not take lightly. We know we are in need of supernatural discernment as we journey through this process and are asking you to join us as we pray through this season of preparing for our next pastor and his family. James 5:16 states, "The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much." With this in mind, we need to be right with God and come to Him with a clean conscience so that our prayers are not hindered.

We are seeking God's will for Lower Creek Baptist Church. We covet your prayers during this season of transition and change. For that reason we ask that you utilize this prayer guide to cover the Pastor Search Committee, the congregation, and the future pastor of our church. We want to build unity and have clear knowledge of God's will for our future pastor.

Listed below are the names of the Pastor Search Committee. We ask that you please pray diligently for each member. It is our hope that you will involve your children in this prayer process. If our children can understand the power of prayer in their lives now, it will have a profound effect on their lives as adults. Thank you for praying as we seek wisdom and discernment of God's will.

Pastor Search Committee,

Rodney McRary, Chairman
Jerrell Laws
Jana Hartley
Theresa Harrison
Chris Smith

Pray for the Pastor Search Committee

Day 1 - Psalm 66:18, John 15:5, Ephesians 5:18 — Pray for deep spiritual cleansing and fullness of the Holy Spirit in each committee member. Pray this for each member by name— Rodney, Jerrell, Jana, Theresa and Chris.

Day 2 - Colossians 1:9 — Pray for God to fill the chairman, Rodney McRary, with knowledge of His will through all spiritual wisdom & understanding and for strength.

Day 3 - Amos 3:3, Matthew 18:19, Ephesians 4:3 — Pray for powerful unity and oneness in spirit within the committee.

Day 4 – James 1:5, Isaiah 55:8-9 — Pray for God’s clear direction in how resumes are examined and interviews conducted. Ask God to bring the right person to the attention of the committee.

Day 5 - 1 Corinthians 2:10-16 — Pray for the Search Committee to have God’s wisdom in all the questions and information they share with the prospective pastor. Spirit-led thoroughness is essential.

Day 6 - James 1:5-6 — Pray for the committee to have wisdom and discernment as to the unique characteristics and traits most needed for our church in a pastor.

Day 7 - Ephesians 5:17 — Pray for the committee to have no timetable but God’s. They must be determined to find God’s perfect will in God’s perfect time.

Day 8 - Ephesians 6:10-12 — Pray for the prevention of Satan’s influence in misleading or rushing the search committee (One of Satan’s tactics is deception). Pray for a powerful hedge of protection around the committee and their families.

Day 9 - I Corinthians 1:10, Acts 2:1 — Pray for God’s guidance in how the future pastor is presented to the church. Pray that there would be no division among the Pastor Search Committee or the congregation – only unity.

Day 10 - Philippians 2:3-11 — Pray that the Pastor Search Committee will seek God’s will for the church above their own desires.

Pray for the Congregation

Day 11 - Jeremiah 29:13, James 4:8 — Pray the pastor search period will be a time the church learns to seek God Himself more than just a new pastor. “Lord, teach us to draw closer to Jesus and trust Him as the true head of the church and not in man.”

Day 12 - Psalm 66:18, Psalm 139:23-24 — Pray for a powerful move of congregational cleansing and renewal. “Father, please cause this to be a time of deep cleansing and renewal in our church. May we always be the church You have called us to be. It is all about You and not us.”

Day 13 - Revelation 2:1-4, Revelation 3:15 — Pray for strong consistency and focus in the present ministry of the church. “Please grant great power to our interim pastor and to our staff. Protect us from any spirit of being luke-warm or losing our first love. Protect us from the evil one and remind us that we serve Jesus, not a pastor.”

Day 14 - John 13:34, John 17:21 — Pray for a miraculous sense of love and unity among all members of the church. “Help us surrender all bitterness, division and anger within our church family. Lord, empower us to love one another with a patient, forgiving love.”

Day 15 - John 17:21, I Corinthians 1:10 — Pray for great unity in calling the new pastor. “Lord, help us to receive him and his family with deep love and renewed commitment. Grant us a powerful sense of revival and spiritual awakening as we move into the future.” Pray for grace, guidance and strength for the church from which our new pastor comes.

Day 16 - Ephesians 4:1-6 — Pray that we be prepared to make the necessary changes to embrace a new day of ministry. “Lord, we understand that a new pastor always means changes. Help us to be prepared to change and grow with graciousness and unity so we can be the church You have called us to be.”

Day 17 - Hebrews 6:12 — Pray that we will patiently await God’s timing and settle for nothing less than His perfect will. Ask God for His mercy in giving us a true man of God and a great leader.

Day 18 - Philippians 2:3-11 — Pray that all the church members will set aside individual expectations for the new pastor and decide in unity who God is calling to lead Lower Creek Baptist Church to be the church God has called us to be.

Day 19 - Isaiah 42:9 — Some churches struggle with wanting a pastor who is like their previous pastor. Others desire someone who is just the opposite. Pray that all would be receptive to God's doing a new thing in the congregation and accept His perfect will above our own desires.

Day 20 - Hebrews 13:17 — Pray that the church as a whole would trust the Pastor Search Committee through the process of finding a new pastor. Pray that the congregation would trust that the Pastor Search Committee is being led by the Spirit as they search for the man God is bringing to Lower Creek Baptist and there would be no division.

Pray for the next Pastor:

Day 21 - 2 Timothy 4:1-5 — Pray that God would increase our next pastor's passion for preaching the Word of God and he would boldly proclaim the truth.

Day 22 - Philippians 1:3-11 — Pray that God would give our next pastor a love for our church and strength to leave his current position. Pray that God would make His will known to him and his family.

Day 23 - Colossians 1:9-12 — Pray for our next pastor's family. Of course, the new pastor may be married or single, may have children or not. God knows all of that. Pray that God, who knows who they are, would strengthen and guide the new pastor's family as they are led toward ministry at Lower Creek Baptist Church. Give them peace in knowing God's will.

Day 24 - Romans 12:9-13 — Pray that God would prepare our pastor to always have great zeal and passion for serving the Lord in his ministry. Pray for God's strength in his weakness and may he be faithful in prayer.

Day 25 - Romans 12:1-2, Ephesians 6:16 — Pray for the future pastor and his family to have absolute certainty in their sense of call to our church. He must know God's direction. Pray also for protection from the evil one and for our future pastor and his family.

Day 26 - 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 — Pray for God's strength and guidance in the pastor's former church. Pray that those with whom he is currently ministering would trust God's plan for his servant in leading him to a new location of ministry.

Day 27 - Amos 4:13 — Pray that the new pastor will have a clear vision for how to minister to the people of Lower Creek Baptist Church and the surrounding community. Pray that many will come to know Jesus through our church.

Day 28 - Luke 12:22-31 — Pray that the new pastor and his family will be able to smoothly transition to our church. This would include the needs of his wife and children in making new friends. Also involved would be physical needs such as housing, schooling, etc. that must be settled upon moving to a new area. Pray that they will feel they have always been with us.

Day 29 - Psalm 133 — Pray that the new pastor would be able to work effectively with the other church staff and deacons that are already serving at Lower Creek Baptist Church.

Day 30 - Joshua 1:8-9 — Pray that God would protect the new pastor's heart as he prepares to leave his current ministry and move to a new ministry. Pray that the stresses of moving, meeting new people, maintaining relationships, etc. would not interfere with his need to continually develop his relationship with God. Pray that God would give him and his family peace knowing they are in God's will.

Day 31 - Colossians 3:12-17 — Above all, pray that God's will would be done through the entire process of finding a new pastor for Lower Creek Baptist Church. Pray that the Holy Spirit will give everyone involved in this process wisdom and peace. Pray that God will show us whom He is calling to Lower Creek Baptist.

*** Please continue to pray after the 31 day devotion is finished by starting again at the beginning of the prayer guide with Day 1. We covet your prayers every day during the pastor search process. If you decide not to start over with Day 1, please continue to pray for the pastor search team, the congregation and the future pastor. We ask that you pray for unity, for no division, for protection from the evil one and for God's will to be done. Please include your children in praying for our church, for the pastor search committee and for the future pastor. We want everyone to see that prayer works in knowing God's will for our church and for every phase of one's life.

Additional thoughts on Prayer

“The definition of prayer is: 1. Intimately know, love, and worship God. 2. Understand and conform our lives to His way and will. 3. Access and advance His kingdom, power, and glory.” – Priscilla Shirer

“In an awakening, the Spirit of God does not typically do a ‘new thing’: He simply pours greater power upon the ‘normal’ things faithful Christians are already doing. Prayers become more intense, worship becomes more joyous, repentance becomes more sorrowful, and the preached word yields greater effect. The Spirit of God multiplies the effectiveness of our ‘normal’ work of seed planting, bringing forth a bountiful harvest and He does more than we could ever accomplish in a lifetime.” – J.D. Greear

“Christ’s life and work, His suffering and death, were founded on prayer - total dependence upon God the Father, trust in God, receiving from Him and surrendering to God...The life He lived for you, and the life He lives in you, is a life that delights to wait on God and receive from Him. To pray in His name is to pray as He prayed. Christ is our example because He is our head, our savior and our life. In virtue of His deity and of His Spirit, He can live in us. We can pray in His name because we abide in Him and He in us.” – Andrew Murray

Additional Scripture Passages on Prayer

Hebrews 11:16; Jeremiah 33:3; Ephesians 3:20; Matthew 19:26; James 5:16; Colossians 4:2; 2 Chronicles 7:14; John 14:13; 1 Timothy 2:1; Psalm 34:4; 1 Thess. 5:17; Psalm 141:2; Psalm 55:17; Psalm 32:6; Psalm 37:4; Ephesians 4:12; John 17:20-21; James 1:6-7; Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 25:3; Psalm 65:2; James 4:2; Luke 21:36; Psalm 84:8-11; Psalm 9:10; Psalm 115:1; John 15:7; Romans 15:13; 2 Thess. 3:16; James 1:5, Romans 8:26; Matthew 5:16, Romans 12:21; Colossians 1:9-12; Mark 3:25; Proverbs 2:6; Isaiah 30:19-21; Psalm 84:7; 1 John 3:8; Matthew 26:41