

Wise Baptist Church

Pastoral and Community Profile

Location: Wise, Virginia

Denomination: Baptist

Employment Type: Full-Time

I. Introduction

Wise Baptist Church, located in the beautiful mountains of Wise, Virginia, is a friendly, Bible-believing congregation dedicated to worshiping God, spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and serving our local community through ministries that reflect God's love and truth.

As a church grounded in the authority of Scripture and committed to the Great Commission, we seek to grow in faith, unity, and service under the leadership of a pastor who will shepherd us with humility, wisdom, and compassion.

II. About Our Church and Community

Wise Baptist Church has served the people of Wise County for more than 125 years. Formally organized on April 2, 1899, with 19 charter members, the congregation has grown alongside the town of Wise, sharing in its history and spiritual life. Our church has deep roots in the community, with a legacy of faithful pastors, committed members, and ongoing ministries that have helped shape generations of believers.

Located in the Appalachian Mountains of Southwest Virginia, the Town of Wise is a closeknit, family-oriented community and home to the University of Virginia's College at Wise. The area offers small-town charm, a strong sense of community, and opportunities for outreach to students, families, and neighbors throughout the region.

The church has approximately 110 members, with average Sunday morning attendance between 50 and 75 people. Wednesday evening meals and Bible studies typically gather 25 to 40 attendees. Sunday School classes serve all age groups, and both Bible Study and Sunday services are streamed online for accessibility to those unable to attend in person.

Wise Baptist Church offers a traditional worship service with occasional blended music, reflecting appreciation for both hymns and contemporary songs of praise. The church values meaningful worship, grounded in Scripture and guided by the Holy Spirit.

The congregation includes families, seniors, and young adults, unified by a commitment to Biblical truth, compassion, and community engagement. Wise Baptist Church participates in cooperative missions through the Wise Baptist Association, the Baptist General Association of Virginia, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

Church operations are supported by a part-time music director and a part-time administrative assistant, as well as faithful volunteers who serve in the nursery, meal preparation, and other ministries. The annual General Fund budget totals approximately

\$260,513, allocated toward ministry staff, missions, and operations with no outstanding debt.

Our mission statement reflects our heart: Wise Baptist Church exists to provide a welcoming place for worship, study, and fellowship, grounded in Scripture and the love of Christ, led by the Holy Spirit, and reaching out to others in a unified spirit of caring, compassion, comfort, and acceptance. Our vision is to continue fulfilling God's plan in this community balancing our resources between the needs of our congregation, the community, and the world.

III. Purpose and Vision

Wise Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking a pastor called by God to provide spiritual leadership, biblical preaching, and pastoral care to the congregation. The pastor will serve as a faithful shepherd who leads by example, teaches the Word of God without compromise, and encourages spiritual maturity among members of all ages.

Our vision is to strengthen our faith community by:

- Deepening our spiritual growth through expository, Christ-centered teaching.
- Encouraging evangelism, discipleship, and missions within our local community.
- Building unity among all generations as we grow together in love and service.

IV. Spiritual and Doctrinal Qualifications

- Biblically Grounded: Holds an unwavering commitment to the authority, inerrancy, and sufficiency of Scripture.
- Doctrinally Sound: Faithfully preaches and teaches the Word of God without compromise, exalting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior in all preaching and ministry.
- Christ-Centered: Keeps Christ at the heart of every sermon and ministry effort.
- Spirit-Filled: Relies on the Holy Spirit for guidance, conviction, and power in preaching and living.
- Prayerful: Demonstrates dependence on God through a consistent and disciplined prayer life.
- Called by God: Has a clear sense of calling to pastoral ministry and exhibits the gifts necessary to fulfill that calling.
- Faithful to Baptist Doctrine: Affirms the Baptist Faith.

V. Personal Character and Integrity

The pastor must demonstrate the biblical qualifications outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1–7 and Titus 1:5–9, exemplifying Christian character both in private and public life.

- Moral Purity: Faithful in marriage and upright in conduct.
- Humble Servant: Models humility and recognizes ministry as service rather than self-exaltation.
- Self-Controlled and Temperate: Patient, deliberate, and slow to anger.
- Trustworthy: Honest, dependable, and consistent in leadership and relationships.
- Approachable: Willing to listen, counsel, and minister with compassion and empathy.

- Spiritually Disciplined: Maintains a devotional life rooted in Scripture, prayer, and obedience to God's Word.

VI. Preaching, Teaching, and Pastoral Leadership

Primary Responsibilities:

- Preach expository, Christ-centered sermons with practical application.
- Teach the whole counsel of God faithfully, verse by verse and in context.
- Administer the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper.
- Provide biblical counseling and visitation for members and families.
- Lead worship services with reverence, clarity, and theological depth.
- Encourage and equip members to serve and grow as disciples of Christ.
- Guide the congregation in evangelism, missions, and outreach.
- Work collaboratively with deacons, committees, and ministry teams to advance the church's mission.

VII. Invitation to Apply

Wise Baptist Church invites qualified candidates who sense God's call to submit an application for the position of Pastor.

Application Materials:

- A cover letter describing your call to ministry and interest in serving Wise Baptist Church.
- A current résumé, including education, ministry experience, and references.
- Optional: Links to sermon recordings or written teaching/preaching samples.

Submission Address:

pastor_search@wisebaptist.com

Wise Baptist Church, % Pastor Search Committee P.O. Box 777 Wise, Virginia Applications

will be reviewed as received, and the position will remain open until filled.

We encourage all applicants to approach this opportunity prayerfully and thoughtfully. Wise Baptist Church earnestly seeks the pastor whom God has chosen to lead our congregation with humility, biblical conviction, and a heart for the people of Wise and the surrounding region. As a congregation with more than 125 years of faithful service, we look forward to continuing to proclaim the Gospel and serve the people of Southwest Virginia.

VIII. Closing Statement

Wise Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking the pastor whom God has chosen to lead His people in this new chapter of ministry. We desire a biblically faithful shepherd who loves God's Word, loves people, and is committed to proclaiming Christ with integrity, compassion, and conviction.

We invite all qualified candidates to prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve God and His church at Wise Baptist Church in Wise, Virginia—to lead us in growing deeper in faith, reaching outward in love, and standing firm upon the Word of God.