

Minister (working title)
First Baptist Church Halifax

Rooted in the Baptist traditions of freedom and shaped by a progressive understanding of Christian faith, First Baptist Church Halifax is an inclusive church committed to following the Way of Jesus while seeking the common good of our larger community.

We are seeking a Minister who will join our staff team in helping our congregation cultivate a community where people grow in faith, build meaningful relationships, participate in the shared ministry of the church, strengthen our witness in the wider community, and live into the rich Baptist tradition that shapes our identity.

Ministry Priorities

Connect to God

Help cultivate opportunities for people of all ages to deepen their spiritual lives through worship, learning, conversation, and faith community.

Responsibilities include:

- sharing in worship leadership and preaching (approximately once every six weeks and when Senior Minister is away)
- creating and supporting opportunities for faith formation through Bible studies, book groups, retreats, and other learning opportunities
- nurturing contemplative practices and creative expressions of spirituality
- supporting children, youth, and adults in exploring faith through the breadth of the Christian tradition

Connect to Community

Help nurture a community where people experience belonging, hospitality, and meaningful relationships.

Responsibilities include:

- cultivating relationships across the congregation
- helping newcomers discover places to belong and participate
- participating with the Senior Minister, Lay Ministers, Deacons and volunteers in the pastoral care and visitation of the congregation
- strengthening our engagement with the university community as neighbours and partners
- helping people discover and use their gifts in the life of the congregation

Do Justice

Help the congregation deepen its longstanding commitment to live into the example of Micah 6:8: “simply do justice, love kindness, and humbly walk with your God.”

Responsibilities include:

- connecting members of the congregation with opportunities for service, advocacy, and community engagement
- strengthening relationships with organizations working in areas such as reconciliation, food security, ecological responsibility, and social justice
- supporting the congregation's longstanding commitment to refugee sponsorship
- encouraging theological reflection that connects faith with public life
- helping the congregation discern emerging opportunities through partnership with the Canadian Council of Churches

Strengthen Our Reach

Help the congregation strengthen its presence and witness within the Halifax Regional Municipality and beyond by sharing our story, extending hospitality through digital ministry, and nurturing meaningful connections with those seeking a place to belong.

Responsibilities include:

- providing leadership for the congregation's digital presence, including oversight of our website, social media, and online communications
- helping ensure that our digital presence reflects the warmth, thoughtfulness, and hospitality of First Baptist Church Halifax
- collaborating with staff and volunteers to communicate the life, ministry, and vision of the congregation
- supporting online worship and exploring new ways to connect with people beyond our physical building
- encouraging communication strategies that strengthen participation, welcome newcomers, and contribute to the long-term vitality and sustainability of the congregation

Live Our Baptist Tradition

Help the congregation deepen its understanding of the Baptist tradition and live into our historic role as advocates for the Baptist freedoms at the heart of our identity.

Responsibilities include:

- nurturing an appreciation for the historic Baptist commitments to freedom of conscience, local church discernment, and thoughtful engagement with Scripture
- participating actively in the life and leadership of the Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms
- cultivating awareness of the diversity of the global Baptist community and helping the congregation engage thoughtfully with contemporary conversations within Baptist life
- representing First Baptist Church Halifax within denominational, ecumenical, and community settings as appropriate
- encouraging opportunities for members to connect with the wider Baptist family through learning, worship, service, and shared ministry

Qualifications and Qualities

The successful candidate will demonstrate many of the following qualities:

- a vibrant faith and a deep commitment to the Way of Jesus
- a dedicated practice of self-growth and desire to network with other clergy to nourish personal faith growth and renewal
- excellent interpersonal, communication, and collaborative leadership skills
- strong organizational skills, with the capacity to manage multiple priorities while remaining attentive to people
- creativity, initiative, and a willingness to explore new approaches to ministry
- comfort using digital communication and technology as tools for ministry and community building
- an appreciation for Baptist history and theology, together with enthusiasm for helping others engage this tradition
- the ability to work both independently and collaboratively as part of a staff team

Education and Experience

Applicants should:

- hold a graduate degree in theology from an accredited institution (Master of Divinity or equivalent preferred)
- be ordained, or eligible for ordination, within a recognized Christian tradition

- have demonstrated experience in congregational ministry or related leadership
- be willing to become actively involved in the life of the Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms

Accountability

The Minister reports to the Senior Minister and Deacons and works collaboratively with the staff team and lay leadership.

Compensation

Salary and benefits are competitive and will be commensurate with education and experience.