



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH *of*  
**HIAWATHA**

*influence · follow · change · serve* | [fbchiawatha.org](http://fbchiawatha.org)

influencing our community  
to become authentic followers  
*of* Jesus Christ.

fbc | HIAWATHA

210 Lodge Rd.

Hiawatha, KS



## Who We Are

### Our Mission | the great commission

Matthew 28: 18 – 20 (NLT)

Jesus came and told his disciples, *"I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*



#### Our Definition:

For us, scripture is very clear as to our mission. Jesus proclaimed that He has all authority so we must go...get out of our comfort zones...and make disciples. Once these disciples (followers) of Jesus are made: we baptize them; teach them to follow and obey Christ; equip them to go and point others in Jesus' direction; and walk alongside them as we follow Jesus together.

### Our Vision | the vision fulfills the mission

Influencing our community to become authentic follows of Jesus Christ.

#### Our Definition:

As we join God in His work, **fbc** wants to invite and influence the people of Hiawatha and around the world to come into a life-changing relationship with Jesus. The definition of the verb **influence** is "to affect or change (someone or something) in an indirect but usually important way."

To us, that change is found when people begin to follow Jesus. We will never push or peddle Jesus onto anyone, only influence them in Jesus' direction.



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## What We Believe

In one sentence: "Jesus is the only Son of God and the only way to get to heaven, everything else is negotiable." We know that many people need more definition and clarification than that, so here you go.

### ABOUT THE SCRIPTURES |

We believe the entire Bible is the inspired Word of God and that individuals were moved by the Spirit of God to write the very words of Scripture. Therefore, we believe the Bible is without error.

### ABOUT GOD |

We believe in one God who exists in three distinct persons. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe that Jesus Christ (the Son of God) became flesh to reveal God to humanity and to become the Savior of the lost world.

### ABOUT HUMANITY |

We believe that all people were created in the image of God to have fellowship with Him but became alienated in that relationship through sinful disobedience. As a result, people are incapable of regaining a right relationship with God through their own efforts.

### ABOUT SALVATION |

We believe that the blood of Jesus Christ, shed on the cross, provides the sole basis for the forgiveness of sin. Therefore, God freely offers salvation to those who place their faith in the death and resurrection of Christ as sufficient payment for their sin.

### ABOUT ETERNITY |

People were created to exist forever. We will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or eternally with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is Hell. To be eternally in union with God is eternal life in Heaven. Heaven and Hell are real places of eternal existence.

### ABOUT FOLLOWING JESUS |

We believe all Christians should live for Christ and not for themselves. By obedience to the Word of God and daily yielding to the Spirit of God, every believer should grow to become more Christ-like in every area of life.

### ABOUT BAPTISM |

We believe water baptism in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is an outward sign of an inward work and is a natural step toward obediently following Jesus. Christ modeled this behavior, and we desire to follow His example.

### ABOUT COMMUNION |

We believe in sharing of the bread and the cup of communion is a remembrance of the Lord's death, burial, and resurrection. We celebrate an open communion for all people and encourage you to seek Christ to fully understand its importance.

### ABOUT THE CHURCH |

We believe that the church is the body of Christ, of which Jesus Christ is the head. Those committed to Christ and His church have trusted by faith the finished work of Jesus' death and resurrection. The purpose of the church is to glorify God by loving Him and by making Him known to the lost world.



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## Our Community

Situated at the intersection of Highway 36 and Highway 73, Hiawatha, Kansas is a charming town, rich in tradition, and strong in community pride. Famous in northeast Kansas as the City of Beautiful Maples, the vibrant colors of fall foliage line the streets within the community, year after year. Other area attractions, including the legendary Davis Memorial, which has been featured on Ripley's Believe It or Not, continue to draw visitors from all over the United States who are eager to behold the life-sized monument that was erected in memory of Davis' wife during the height of the Great Depression. Locals are aware of how unique this community truly is, and we hope that you will take the opportunity to experience it firsthand.

Hiawatha is the county seat, population 3,280, located 95 miles northwest of Kansas City, 65 miles north of Topeka, 45 miles west of St. Joseph, Missouri, and 116 miles south of Omaha, Nebraska. Hiawatha Unified School District 415 has three public schools, the Elementary School (K-4), Middle School (5-8), and High School (8-12). The community also provides three preschools, and a Head Start program.



Davis Memorial

Hiawatha is home to a vibrant and thriving retail community including quaint retail shops, local salons, and window shopping along downtown Oregon Street. Hiawatha also includes three gas stations, three banks, nine restaurants, two parks, a walking trail, fitness center, aquatic park, frisbee golf course, community tennis courts, movie theater, a nine-hole golf course, and public library. The city offers youth softball and baseball programs, youth soccer leagues, and youth flag football.

Throughout the year, Hiawatha is home to a variety of community events and activities. Enjoy the beauty of the autumn maple leaves at the Maple Leaf Festival and Heritage days, which is an annual downtown event featuring a variety of activities, arts and crafts vendors, and delicious festival food. Other events include the Holiday Homes Tour, and our legendary Halloween Parade that is known as the oldest parade in the Nation!

Useful Links:

[City Website](#)

[Chamber & Visitors Bureau](#)

[Local News](#)

[Hiawatha Schools](#)



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We are blessed with quality health care facilities in Hiawatha. Amberwell Hiawatha provides general medical and surgical care for inpatient, outpatient, and emergency room patients, and participates in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Emergency room services are available on a 24-hour per day, seven-day per week basis. The community supports two dental offices, and two optometry facilities. Assisted living, nursing homes, and affordable senior housing is all located in the city.



Amberwell  
Hiawatha



Morrill  
Library



Fall Scenery



Downtown Hiawatha



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*Hiawatha Elementary School*



*Hiawatha Middle School*



*Hiawatha High School*



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City Park



Walking Trail, Frisbee  
Golf, and Noble Park



Hiawatha  
Aquatic Park



Brown County Sunset



Brown County Scenery



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## Our Story

Down through the history of this church, there has been a remnant of people with a continuing characteristic of being forward moving, not afraid to be in the forefront of community events, very mission minded, and active in the community. With a past of long-term pastoral leadership, continuity has been one of our greatest assets.

We continue to actively seek God for His direction and will for us in the community, and desire to be used by God to meet the needs of people where they are in their Christian walk.



1857

- Services held in the home of E.H. Niles and the first Sunday School was originated.

1860

- The first charter members were organized into the First Baptist Church

1870

- The movement was made to build a meeting house in Hiawatha

1892

- The church building burned to the ground. The congregation declined to rebuild immediately.

1893

- The cornerstone was laid, midst rain and with music from the city band. July 23rd, the new building was dedicated.

1963

- Groundbreaking ceremonies were held for a new educational building.

2001

- Groundbreaking ceremonies were held on the new property located on the south side of Hiawatha for the Family Life Center.

2004

- Moved into the new Family Life Center building.

2018

- Transition was made from Constitution (containing 7 Boards and 11 Committees), to Bylaws governed by a 7 partner Elder Board led by the Pastor. Activities of the church are led by the Pastor and staff, with volunteer partners and attendees.



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## Church Activities

### FBC KIDS |

FBC Kids meets every Sunday morning at 10:00 and encompasses children from Birth to 4th Grade. Our Nursery is fully equipped to handle children from birth to 3 years old. Children from Pre-K to 4th Grade enjoy a large group together where they worship in their own environment, hear a message from our Scripturally centered curriculum, and break into their appropriate age groups to dive deeper into lessons.

### BREAKOUT KIDS CLUB |

Breakout Kids Club is a community-based after school program that meets every Wednesday, September through April, while school is in session. The primary goal of Breakout is to teach kids to love God, love life, and love others.



### THE CREW & ANCHORED |

The Crew is for our 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade middle school students, and Anchored is for our high school students. Both programs are all about fun games, worship, relevant teachings from the Bible, and small group conversations. The Crew and Anchored meet separately on Wednesday evenings during the school year.



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## COMMUNITY GROUPS |

Community Groups provide an opportunity for adults to discuss the weekly teaching and build deepening relationships with God and others. Becoming a part of a Community Group is essential to our own personal growth. Here is an essential truth: life happens better in circles (groups), not rows (on a Sunday). Community Groups begin the process of moving away from shallow, toward personal.

## OTHER CHURCH ACTIVITIES |

Other church activities include the North Brown County Food Bank, Mexico Missions, American Baptist Women's group, Hanging of the Greens, Christmas Eve Program, and Community Thanksgiving Dinner.



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## How We See Ourselves

### What are the **strengths** of our Church?

We feel that our Church has excelled in youth ministry, including an after-school Breakout program that is attended by kids both inside and outside of our immediate church family.

We feel that our Church worship experience is unique due to our focus on contemporary music.

We feel that our Church facility is an asset to our community. The facility was designed with an emphasis on being welcoming to the community and is regularly sought out by members of the community for a variety of events.



### What are the **needs** of our Church?

We feel that our Church needs to reconnect to the community post-pandemic.

We feel that our Church needs to attract more young families.

We feel that our Church needs to encourage adult home bible studies.



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## What do **we** do well?



We feel that we are successfully in breaking-down barriers that allow us to work effectively with other churches in our community for specific ministries. Some examples of this includes our youth ministries, the North Brown County Food Bank, and the community Thanksgiving Dinner.

We feel that we effectively utilize technology, including online sermons and online youth programs. We regularly leverage technology to reach people.

## What does our **community** need from us as a Church?

Our community needs a church that will provide an example of Jesus Christ and be a spiritual leader for all.



## What do we want the **Pastor** to do?

We want the Pastor to effectively prepare and present sermons that are instructional and encouraging.

We want the Pastor to spend time visiting the sick and shut ins.

We want the Pastor to connect and attract new partners (members) and regular attendees.

We want the Pastor to emphasize bible study and teaching.

We want the Pastor to be responsive to the needy in our community.

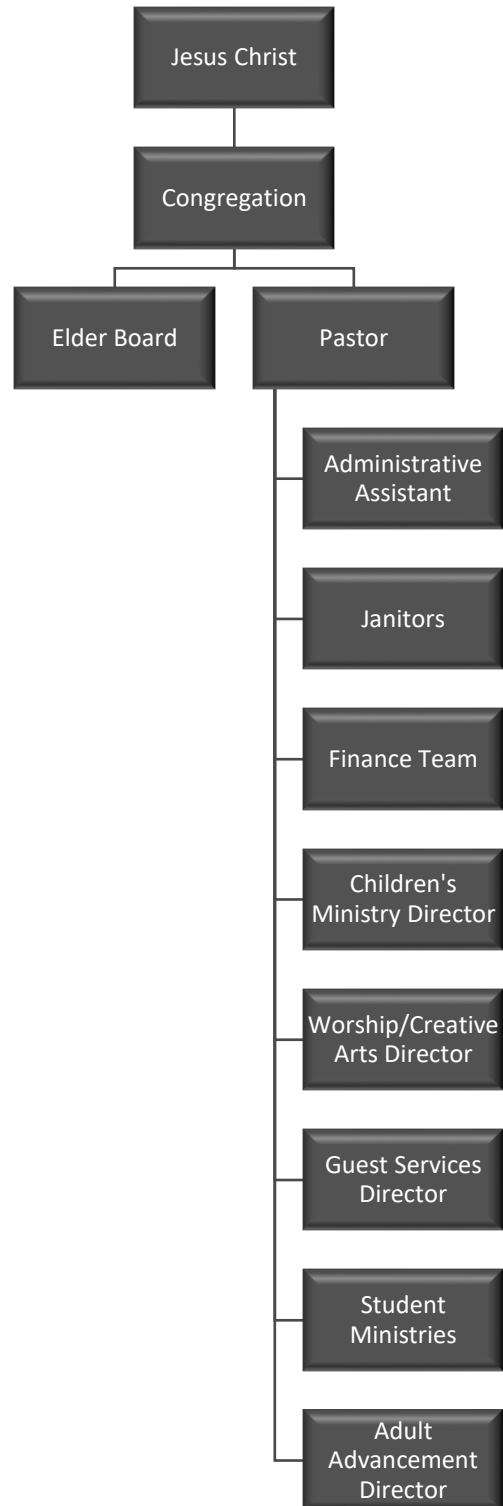
We want the Pastor to provide team ministry guidance.



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# Organizational Chart



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## Our Church Life

### Sunday Mornings |

Our Worship Experience begins at 10:00 am and will last about 90 minutes. We sing contemporary music that is led by our worship team.

FBC Kids occurs during the Worship Experience and includes kids from Birth to 4<sup>th</sup> Grade. Our Nursery is fully equipped to handle children from birth to 3 years old. Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> Grade kids enjoy large group together where they worship in their own environment.

FBC contributes a message for the local radio station that is broadcast to radio listeners from 9:20 to 10:30 am.

The Sunday Morning Worship Experience is recorded and uploaded to the church website to be accessed by anyone who wishes to listen to the message.



### Wednesday |

Breakout Kids Club occurs after school between 3:30 and 5:30 pm and is offered to students from kindergarten to 6<sup>th</sup> grade during the school year. An FBC owned school bus offers a convenience to parents by picking up students from the elementary school and transporting them to FBC.

The Crew meets Wednesday evening from 6:00 to 7:10 pm during the school year and is offered to students from 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Anchored meets Wednesday evening from 7:30 to 8:45 pm during the school year and is offered to students from 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade.



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## Other Opportunities |

Community Groups provide an opportunity for adults to discuss the weekly teaching and build deepening relationships with God and others. These groups come in various sizes and meet throughout the week.



Mexico Mission

FBC offers many opportunities to serve others in the form of mission work. The North Brown County Food Bank, Missions to Mexico, and other various outreach activities occur throughout the year.

FBC leads worship at the local nursing home on Sunday afternoon once every month. This outreach ministry is available to anyone who wishes to participate.



Anchored



Mexico Mission



Anchored



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## Our Worship Life

The Worship service itself may not always follow the same pattern from week to week but a typical service includes the following elements in some way:

Visitor and attendees are welcomed at the door by our Guest Services team. The Guest Services team also provide coffee, hot chocolate, and breakfast snacks to guests as they find their seats. The worship team leads the congregation in singing. The congregation greet each other as part of the worship experience. Announcements are made by either the pastoral staff or lay leaders. Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month. The Pastor presents the message to the congregation. An invitation to make a decision to join the church or make a public decision for Christ is extended, and service is concluded with music from the Worship team.



For the music portion of our worship service, our congregation participates in the singing of contemporary praise songs. New songs are incorporated into the worship service on a fairly regular basis. We have a song leader and Worship team leading congregational singing. Our Worship team is currently made up of drums, guitars, bass, keyboard, and piano.

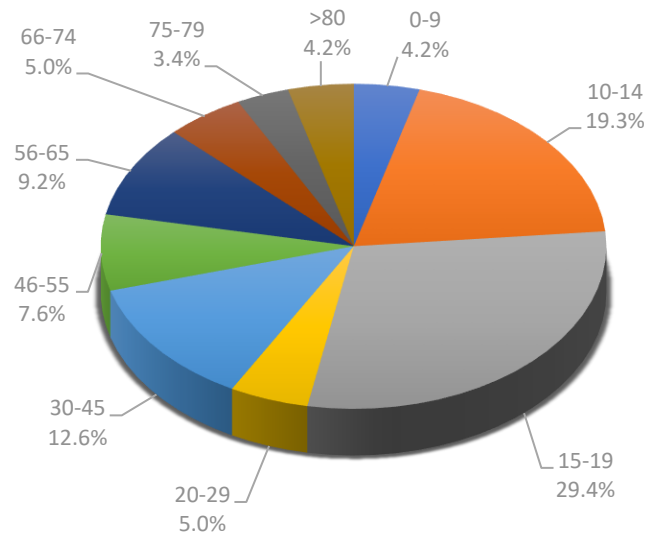


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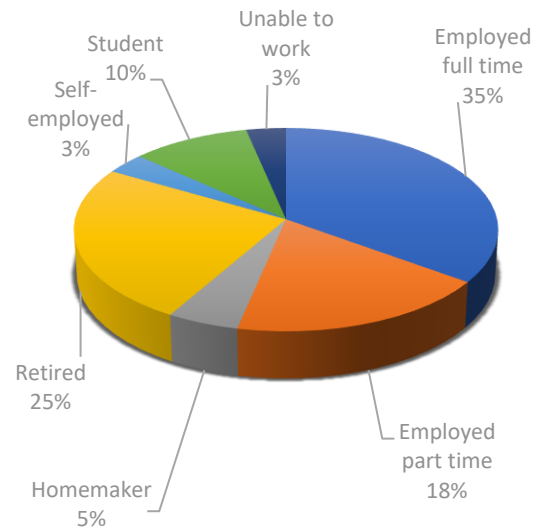


## Our Church Information

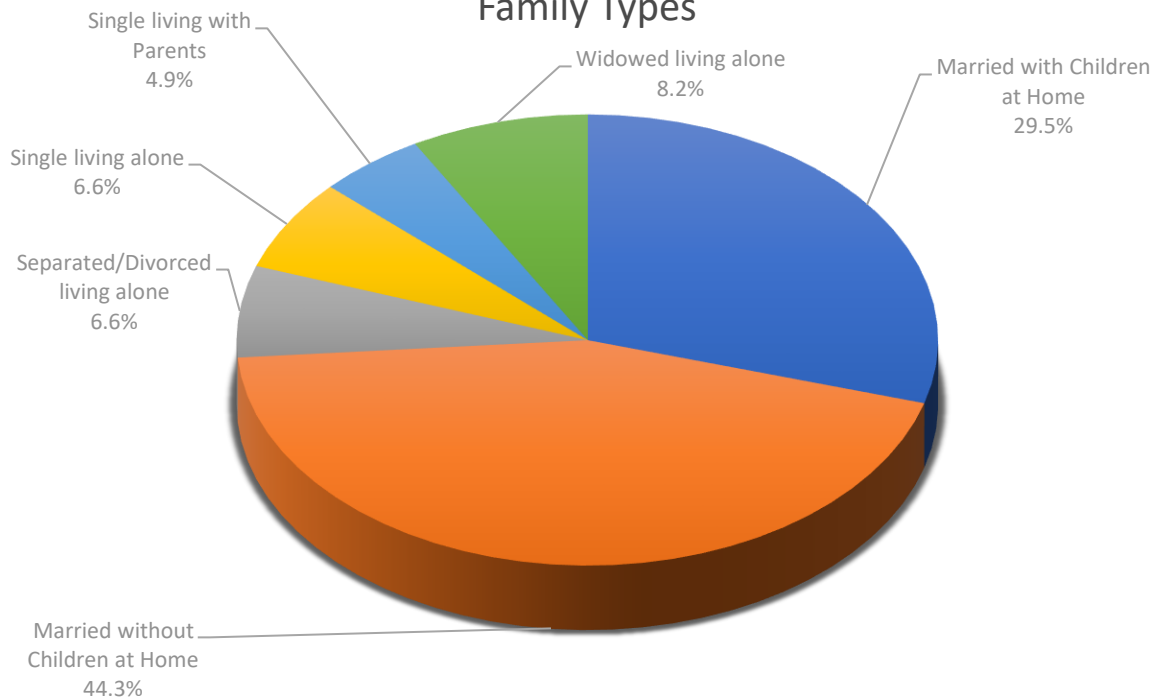
### Age of Congregation



### Employment Status



### Family Types



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## Job Description & Compensation

### Job Description |

First Baptist Church in Hiawatha, Kansas is seeking a pastor who can lead a congregation of about 100 active members under the direction of God's Holy Spirit, through the instruction of God's Word. Pastor will fulfill the responsibilities of preaching and teaching on God's Word in regular worship services of the fellowship. The pastor will conduct Bible studies, visit, encourage, and connect with all ages of the congregation, possess the visionary ability to guide the church's spiritual development. They will work with church ministries, staff, and the congregation in ways that will energize and encourage personal spiritual and church growth to become the people that Jesus has called us to be.

#### Detailed Job Description:

1. Corporate Worship: Prepare and deliver an original sermon during in each worship service except when on vacation. Arrive at the church building prior to the service and provide support and information to the Praise Team, as needed. Participate in the worship service by song, praise, and fellowship. Coordinate the service with the Praise Team leaders. Routinely give an invitation to accept Christ at the conclusion of each sermon and pray with anyone coming forward.
2. Bible Study: Dedication to personal Bible study and participation in developing and promoting a small group bible study ministry.
3. Office Hours: Starting with a 40-hour work week, some time will be spent in ministry meetings, visiting others, sermon preparation, and schedule "office hours" or time in the church office each week for people to meet with the pastor for Godly counsel, friendly visits or conduct other business of the Church.
4. Special Occasions: Conduct special worship services during the calendar year. Be available for weddings, funerals for the congregation as well as baptisms, baby dedications, and ordinations. Administer the Lord's Supper on a regular basis, preferable monthly. Coordinate these events with the Administrative Secretary and other staff as appropriate.
5. Visitation: Make visiting a part of your weekly routine and rotate through our list of shut-in members and in senior living centers. Make the best effort to visit those hospitalized and attend surgeries and critical illness.
6. Counseling: The Pastor will be available for pre-marital and short-term pastoral counseling and will make referrals for counseling as appropriate, to encourage a stable and healthy body of believers within the fellowship. The Pastor needs to listen with patience and compassion taking the time to see and hear the other person. The Pastor should be flexible in their approach while always upholding Christian beliefs and values.



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7. Community Involvement: Be a visible member of the community through participation in events that bring glory to God and benefit the local community. The pastor will develop relationships with other ministry leaders in the community and surrounding area for support, edification, and accountability. Also, the pastor will endeavor to work with other ministry leaders in the area to promote the community's churches working together so that persons come to know Jesus and follow him.
8. Denominational Involvement: Participate in the life of American Baptist Church of the Central Region through attending pastor meeting and/or ABCCR and ABCUSA events.
9. Ministry Involvement: Serve as an ex-officio member of all ministries and Boards or Teams. Support the Church's ministries by regularly meeting with the Elder Board to oversee the ministry and administrative needs of the Church and with other Team meetings and participating, as needed, in ministry events.
10. Pastor will abide by and strive to comply with the Church's Bylaws and Guiding Principles.
11. Serve as principal administrator of the church and supervise paid and volunteer staff with the understanding that FBC Hiawatha is structured as a staff-led church with the pastor in the lead position.

Additional Requirements:

1. Formal theological ministry and/or college degree is preferred but not required. Demonstrated competency in congregation spiritual growth across a wide range of ages.
2. Ministry experience as pastor or other full time ministry experience is required.
3. A strong communicator and listener who is energetic and also relates well with kids and youth.
4. Sound character and integrity, meeting the biblical qualifications of an elder and overseer as defined in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1 and will endeavor to fulfill the Covenant of Ministers of the ABC/USA, including the Code of Ethics.
5. A history of compassionate character, demonstrating the fruit of the Holy Spirit as listed in Galatians 5.
6. A heart of humility evidenced in the willingness to shepherd and serve sacrificially.
7. A deep commitment to prayer and personal time in God's Word.

## Compensation |

The compensation package for negotiation includes Pastor's salary, social security offset, MMBB retirement, housing allowance, health insurance for the Pastor (or Pastor and family with cost sharing), and paid vacation.

## Additional Links

FBC | [fbchiawatha.org/](http://fbchiawatha.org/)

Brown County | [brcoks.org/](http://brcoks.org/)

Brown County Census Quick Facts | [census.gov/quickfacts/browncountykansas](http://census.gov/quickfacts/browncountykansas)

Hospital | [hch-ks.org/](http://hch-ks.org/)

City Facebook | [facebook.com/CityofHiawathaKs/](https://facebook.com/CityofHiawathaKs/)

Parks & Recreation | [facebook.com/CityofHiawathaParksandRecs](https://facebook.com/CityofHiawathaParksandRecs)

Hiawatha Country Club | [hiawathacountryclub.com/](http://hiawathacountryclub.com/)



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