

## **The First Baptist Church in Essex, Connecticut is currently seeking a part time pastor.**

We are a beautiful historic church that embraces the needs of modern-day life.

We are a small, loving American Baptist congregation that is more like family. Many of us have grown up in this church or have been members for many years. We honor and cherish all who came before us. All are welcome into our community with love, compassion, and joy. We share our celebrations and concerns about ourselves, our families, the community, and our world at large each week during our Sunday service. We recently became a welcoming and affirming church which we feel best follows the teachings of Jesus.

Our church seeks a warm, energetic, compassionate spiritual leader who would like to be involved in the life of the church, its members and the community. We envision our worship leader to guide us in our personal relationship with God, challenging us to grow in our Biblical studies, and making it relevant in today's world. Our pastor will have the opportunity to be active in our church through worship, church meetings, music, special events and outings. There is also an opportunity to participate in the community of the Interfaith group of local religious leaders and ABCCONN. A degree from an accredited college or seminary is required. Baptist ordination is preferred but not required.

We have one Sunday service at 10 a.m. which is a hybrid service designed to include out of state and homebound worshippers via Zoom. Our church settled the Shoreline Soup Kitchen Pantry in 1989. The organization has grown and in 2023, they served 2 million pounds of food to our local families. We have a Monday evening meal site at our church. Some of our other activities are monthly children's service, books studies, and special events for holy days. In the past, we have held yearly craft fairs, holiday fairs, food and toy drives, Sunday school, Bible Study, and mid-day prayer.

The First Baptist Church is located in a lovely, quaint New England town. The population is about 7,000. Essex has been named the best small town in America many times through several publications. The historic church building was constructed in 1846 but the congregation started in 1811. Any one of our members would love to tell you about our church structure. We also have a three-bedroom parsonage located adjacent to the church which was built in 1880 and most recently renovated in 2014. It is currently rented.

In closing, we are a small and faithful group. Simply said, we believe through prayer all things are possible. If you agree, we would love to meet you. Please email your cover letter and resume to:

Pastoral Search Committee

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We look forward to hearing from you.