



Patterson Park Church

Beavercreek, OH
Celebrating 75 Years

Pastor of Student Ministry Candidate Information

www.pattersonpark.org



Overview of Patterson Park

Patterson Park Church (PPC) is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. Founded as a Grace Brethren Church, the congregation eventually described itself as an Independent Bible Church” before identifying as a “Non-Denominational Church.” Its present pastoral staff consists of a Teaching Pastor, Pastor of Worship and Operations, Pastor of Family Ministries, Pastor of Missions and Adults, Pastor of Student Ministries, and Pastor of Discipleship (part-time – to retire in December 2025). Collectively, the present pastoral staff has served PPC for over ninety years. Six non-vocational elders serve alongside the six vocational pastors to provide oversight of the ministry.

PPC’s worship services, identical services at 9:00 and 10:30, include a full choir and orchestra three weeks out of four and a praise band on the fourth Sunday. Expository preaching through books of the Bible characterizes its preaching ministry, usually rotating between the Old and New Testament books. Occasional short topical series may be used in between book series, during summer months, and Advent. The Teaching Pastor preaches three of four Sundays each month; the Pastor of Missions and Adult Ministries once a month; the Discipleship Pastor once a quarter.

Sunday School classes, Bible studies, and small groups are a high priority for many at PPC. The church is blessed with dynamic children’s and student ministries. Women’s, Men’s, and a Special Needs ministry play significant roles in the life of the church. Missions are a high priority, and we support 44 families/individuals as well as ten organizations.

The church is blessed with members/attendees who come from a variety of church backgrounds. Consequently, PPC’s “essentials/non-essentials view” (see below) is unique to the congregation.

The student ministry offers Sunday School classes during the 10:30 hour and meets on Sunday evenings as growth groups (over one hundred students, plus leaders). Other activities, including winter retreats and summer mission trips, take place throughout the year. The ministry is strongly supported by the congregation. Patterson Park Church is blessed with incredible Student Ministry volunteers who are the backbone of the ministry. *Feedback from them will be critical as well.*

PPC's “essentials/non-essentials view” UNITY AND THEOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Joe Godwin, Teaching Pastor

In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.

When we think of orthodox Christianity, we think of those historic doctrines of the Christian faith for which our predecessors were willing to die. By God's grace, we trust that if the time ever came, we would be willing to do the same for preaching these glorious truths of the Gospel: the Scriptures are the inspired words of God; God exists in three Persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit; Christ was miraculously conceived by the Holy Spirit and born to the virgin Mary; Christ died, was buried and rose again for our justification; the only way to be reconciled to God is by grace through faith in the Person and work of Jesus Christ; Christ ascended to heaven and will return to earth one day.

The historic creeds of the Christian faith such as the Apostle's Creed and the Nicene Creed state these doctrines without ambiguity.

The statements of faith of many churches raise the level of some non-essential theological positions to equality with the doctrines mentioned above. Many wise and godly men and women throughout the history of the church have held differing positions on those issues. It is imperative that we communicate that which we believe to be essential and critical to our faith. If one is not willing to take the sword for a position, why do we imply that it is such a critical issue? Our early church fathers understood the difference.

Patterson Park Church is a non-denominational Bible church. These words are found in our Constitution under Article I. What does it mean to be a non-denominational Bible church? For many, the idea is that we do not necessarily embrace certain non-essentials which characterize various denominations. As such, we attract believers from a wide variety of denominational and theological backgrounds who find this very appealing. Their desire is to focus on what they believe to be foundational truths while not being bound by teaching which is more denominational, or non-essential. Usually, a denomination is characterized by distinct beliefs and practices, which may or may not be considered essential.

Among both the leadership and the general membership at Patterson Park Church, various views are held on a number of issues: the mode of baptism, dispensationalism and eschatology, and points related to election and the extent of the atonement, just to name a few. This is characteristic of the history of Christianity in general. Various views have been held on all these positions by theologians, denominational leaders, influential pastors and Christians in general who have held deep convictions regarding the foundational truths of the Scriptures.

Some of our views are communicated with great passion and energy. This may lead others to believe that we are intolerant of differing views. The expression of our passions must be characterized by love and respect, acknowledging that our views may not be held by others or there might be great misunderstanding of those points of view.

I Corinthians 13 tells us that the greatest of abilities and knowledge matters little to God if the use of those gifts is not done in love. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing (verses 3). Love is not demonstrated through harsh, self-righteous words even when the truth is being communicated. Jesus was able to truthfully say, I am gentle and lowly in heart (Matthew 11:29).

Even those essential truths, which require dogmatism because of their importance, must be communicated with loving words. Paul goes on to say that love is not arrogant or rude (I Corinthians 13:4-5). We have all heard truth communicated so harshly that one would wonder why anyone would accept what was being taught.

Jesus spoke to the importance of oneness in John 17:11 as a reflection of the oneness shared between the Father and the Son. The psalmist declared the following: Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity (Psalm 133:1).

Patterson Park Church graciously accepts those who hold differing theological opinions on the non-essentials. We encourage the study of theology, the examination of various viewpoints, the communication of those viewpoints and the humility to acknowledge that good and godly people differ from the viewpoints we embrace. We encourage a spirit that is respectful and non-divisive.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

We of Patterson Park Church present the following articles as a statement of those basic truths taught in the Bible which are common to our Christian faith and practice:

1. **THE BIBLE:** The Word of God, the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, verbally inspired in all parts, and therefore wholly without error as originally given of God (*II Tim. 3:16; II Peter 1:21*).
2. **THE ONE TRUE GOD:** In the unity of the Godhead, there exist three co-eternal, co-equal persons--the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (*Luke 3:22; Matt. 28:19; II Cor. 13:14*).
3. **THE LORD JESUS CHRIST:** His pre-existence and deity (*John 1:1-3*), incarnation by virgin birth (*John 1:14; Matt. 1:18-23*), sinless life (*Heb. 4:15*), substitutionary death (*II Cor. 5:21*), bodily resurrection (*Luke 24:36-43*), ascension into heaven and present ministry (*Heb. 4:14-16*), and coming again (*Acts 1:11*).
4. **THE HOLY SPIRIT:** His personality (*John 16:7-15*), His role as Comforter, and Convicter of Truth (*John 14:17, 26*), and deity (*Acts 5:3-4*), and His work in each believer, baptism and indwelling at the moment of regeneration (*I Cor. 12:13, Rom. 8:9*), and filling (*Eph. 5:18*) to empower for Christian life and service (*Eph. 3:16; Acts 1:8; Gal. 5:22-23*).
5. **MAN:** His direct creation in the image of God (*Gen. 1:26-28*), his subsequent fall into sin resulting in spiritual death (*Gen. 3:1-24; Rom. 5:12*), and the necessity of the new birth for his salvation (*John 3:3-5*).
6. **SALVATION:** A complete and eternal salvation by God's grace alone, received as the gift of God through personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His vicarious atonement through the cross (*Eph. 2:8,9; Titus 3:5-7; I Peter 1:18-19*).
7. **THE CHURCH:** One true Church, the body and bride of Christ (*Eph. 1:22-23; 5:25-32*), composed of all true believers of the present age (*I Cor. 12:12-13*), and the organization of its members in local churches for worship, for edification of believers, and for world-wide gospel witness, each local church being autonomous but cooperating in fellowship and work (*Eph. 4:11-16*).

8. **CHRISTIAN LIFE:** A life of righteousness, good works, and separation unto God from the evil ways of the world (*Rom. 12:1-2*), manifested by speaking the truth (*James 5:12*), maintaining the sanctity of the home (*Eph. 5:22-6:4*), settling differences between Christians in accordance with the Word of God (*I Cor. 6:1-8*), not engaging in carnal strife but showing a Christ-like attitude toward all men (*Rom. 12:17-21*), exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit.
9. **ORDINANCES:** The Christian should observe the ordinances of our Lord Jesus Christ which are baptism of believers by immersion (*Matt. 28:19*) and the Lord's Supper (*I Cor. 11:23-26*).
10. **SATAN:** A created spirit being (*Ezek. 28:13-15*) possessing personality. The great adversary of God and His people (*Rev. 12:1-10*), his judgment (*John 12:31*), and final doom (*Rev. 20:10*).
11. **SECOND COMING:** The personal, visible, and imminent return of Christ to remove His Church from the earth (*I Thess. 4:16-17*) and the establishment of His millennial kingdom upon the earth (*Rev. 19:11-20:6*).
12. **FUTURE LIFE:** The conscious existence of the dead (*Phil. 1:21-23; Luke 16:19-31*), the resurrection of the body (*John 5:28-29*), the judgment and reward of believers (*Rom. 14:10-12; II Cor. 5:10*), the judgment and condemnation of unbelievers (*Rev. 20:11-15*), the eternal life of the saved (*John 3:16*), and the punishment of the lost (*Matt. 25:46; Rev. 20:15*).

Job Description

Position Title: Pastor (or Director) of Student Ministry

How to apply: email your resume to ppc@pattersonpark.org

Principal Function

Pastor of Students from Jr. High – High School at Patterson Park Church. As Pastor of Student Ministry, it would be your responsibility to oversee the execution of the Mission and Vision of the PPC Student Ministry aligned with the Five Pillars. You would be the lead bible teacher/preacher of the Student Ministry. You would lead the effort in evaluating current ministry efforts and navigating any needed changes.

Mission: As a ministry of PPC, the PPC Student ministry exists to faithfully disciple the students of PPC, and their peers, toward lifelong faith in Jesus Christ for the glory of God.

Vision: Our vision is to see every student and leader transformed by Jesus through grace-filled, gospel-centered and Bible-saturated discipleship in the church and at home.

The Five Pillars of Student Ministry at Patterson Park Church

1. **Gospel Centrality**— faithfully proclaiming the good news of God's unconditional love for sinners through Christ.
2. **Relational Discipleship**— pursuing all facets of ministry in the context of caring relationships with students.
3. **Theological Depth**— through expository, biblical teaching – equipping students with a biblical worldview.
4. **Church & Family** — equipping with a biblical understanding the role of the Church and the role of Christian parents as members of the Church.
5. **Intergenerational Integration**— not segregating students from the church body but including them among all of the generations of the church.

How we currently operate to accomplish our mission and vision:

Growth Groups

- A Sunday night student ministry program that divides into three facets: Teaching Time, Game Time, and Growth Group Time. Growth Groups are divided by age and gender. Over 30 members of PPC make up the Growth Group leadership team. There is a volunteer led youth worship band that often leads on Sunday nights. This ministry starts in September and Concludes in May, taking the summers off.
 - Pillars Supported: 1-5

Sunday School

- Every Sunday morning our students gather after 1st service for Bible teaching 3 times a month and then a social/all-together Sunday once a month.
 - Pillars Supported: 1,3,4,5

Winter Retreat

- Every January or February our Youth and leaders go on Winter Retreat. This is a time to get away from the normal routines of life and hear from God. As well as invite friends who are unchurched.
 - Pillars Supported: 1,2,3,5

Service Projects (S.O.C.) – Serve Our Community

- For the past several years the students of Patterson Park Church have set aside a week in the summer to serve the neighborhood around PPC.
 - Pillars Supported: 2,4

Summer Trips – Missions Trips/Camp

- Missions – The PPC Student Ministry has partnered with Plant Camp in Utah, B2B in Cancun, Mexico, and SOS in Memphis, Tennessee over the last several years to provide the students with an exposure to missions, leadership development, and growth in evangelism.
- Camp – Run by Crossings in Kentucky, PPC offers a week of camp to attend for students. This is a great time for parents to join in and other leaders as well.
 - Pillars Supported: 1,2,4,5

Social Activities

- Parents and leaders plan several social activities throughout the year that are used to invite peers, grow relationships, and cultivate a healthy culture within the PPC Student ministry.
 - Pillars Supported: 2,4,5

Cooperate Responsibilities

1. Attend council of elder meetings and retreats.
2. Work with pastoral staff and elders to shepherd PPC congregation and oversee the work of the church.
3. Act as a representative of the student ministry to the church staff, elders, and other ministry leaders.
4. Represent the church to the community when called upon to do so.

Student Ministry Responsibilities

1. Teach the Bible
2. Shepherd the leaders, students and families of PPC to Christ.
3. Oversee the student ministry programs, volunteers, and staff.
4. Prepare and manage the annual student ministry budget.

Parent/Family Responsibilities

1. Be available to meet with parents for prayer, collaboration, and counsel in shepherding the parent's child(ren).

Core Competencies

Spiritual Maturity: Demonstrates character, integrity, strong theological foundation, giftedness for ministry, spiritual qualifications of I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9, nurtures his own spiritual life as a man of prayer and the Word,

Pastoral Gifts: Demonstrates compassion and care for members of the congregation; willing to meet with those in need of pastoral counseling; keeps confidentiality; willing to visit the sick and elderly; availability.

Flexibility: Willingness to serve when needed outside of primary responsibilities; adapts easily to unexpected interruptions; able to multi-task.

Disciple-maker: Points others to Christ and helps them to grow in their walk with Christ. Invests in the spiritual lives of others.

Mission Ownership: Demonstrates understanding and full support of the mission, vision, beliefs and code of conduct of Patterson Park Church; consistently behaves in a manner (both during and outside of business hours) congruent with the mission, vision, beliefs and code of conduct of PPC.