

# Jersey Baptist Church

2920 Jersey Church Road  
Lexington, North Carolina 27292



## Church Profile

*Looking upward, growing inward, reaching outward and  
moving forward with Jesus*

Jersey Baptist Church is a family of followers of Jesus Christ that has a rich history in our community of more than 260 years. We strive to be a place where history embraces the future ministries God has planned for us.

Jersey seeks to love God, serve others, and share Jesus with our community. Some of our top values and priorities are:

- Worship and Bible Study
- Unity
- Generosity
- Welcoming Spirit
- Community Ministry and Missions
- Pastoral Care
- Ministry with and to Families
- Informal Social Discipleship

We value relationships with each other as we grow closer to God. By following scripture and listening to the Holy Spirit's leading, we strive to extend love and grace to those around us.

Jersey is dually aligned with CBF and SBC. Jersey is a church in good financial standing. During this turbulent time with Covid 19, giving has remained steady and Jersey is debt free. Our budget prioritizes missions, ministry, church staff, and maintaining our facilities. Budget support is mainly from our congregational members, with an endowment supporting property maintenance. We have 12+ months of reserve capital. We look forward to our future as we move forward with God's guidance in selecting a lead pastor.

### ***Vision Statement***

*We desire to be a community of believers that loves God and others by connecting people to Jesus. We strive to grow God's kingdom by loving, serving, encouraging, adapting, and being equipped to accomplish God's will.*

# Our History

Jersey Baptist Church began regular meetings in 1755 under the leadership of John Gano and Benjamin Miller. These two men were instrumental in bringing the people of the “Jersey settlement” together. This settlement was established by New Jersey pioneers who moved to the fertile valley on the Yadkin River in the 1740’s. Jersey Baptist Church joined the Charleston Baptist Association in 1759 and gave the date of 1755 as their constitution of a church. John Gano taught orderly worship, practiced baptism by immersion, and the observance of the Lord’s Supper. Because of persecution by Governor Tryon over taxes and threats of Indian attacks, John Gano returned his family to New Jersey.

It is believed Jersey Baptist became inactive from 1771 to 1784. Church records state the church was reconstituted October 16, 1784, with fourteen charter members. There are continuous records since that date except for a few years in the 1930’s. Records indicate there was a meeting house at Jersey in the early days of the church. The present sanctuary was built in 1842. In 1933, eight classrooms were added at the back of the sanctuary; in 1953, additional rooms were built; in 1965, the Gano Building was completed; and in 1992, an activity building (now called the Multi-Purpose Room) was constructed which includes a large fellowship hall, classrooms, pastor’s study, offices for secretary and other ministerial staff, conference room, fully equipped kitchen, and storage rooms. The Sanctuary was last remodeled in 1999, and many of our Sunday School rooms and the nursery were remodeled from 2016 to 2018.

Missions and ministry have been an essential part of Jersey. In 1907, a small band of women organized Woman’s Missionary Society. They began learning about missions, sacrificially giving to missions, and praying for missions. The early women of Jersey have helped spur Jersey to embrace missions as an integral part of its identity today.

Ordained ministers from Jersey include Dr. J. Lee Carrick, Dr. Forrest C. Feezor, Jeanne Hollifield Baucom, Bobby Lyon, Thomas Allen, Jared Collier, Michael Smith, Megan Hagar. Each was either a member or former member of Jersey when ordained. Each has made a great contribution for the cause of Christ as they have served.

Pastors who have served Jersey in recent years are Rev. Morris S. Hollifield, Dr. Brooks L. Hunt (Interim), Dr. J. Michael Collier, and Rev. Don Durham (Interim), and Dr. T. Matt Riggsbee. Dr. Paul Batson has been our interim pastor since September 2021.

# Our Community

Jersey Baptist Church is located in central Davidson County, in the Piedmont of North Carolina. Jersey Baptist Church is located in a rural community, about 5 miles south of Lexington, the county government seat. We are located approximately a 1.5-hour drive to the Blue Ridge Mountains and a 3.5-hour drive to the Carolina coast.

High Rock Lake, the second largest lake in North Carolina, is located near Jersey. Lexington is known for its pork barbeque and calls itself the “Barbeque Capital of North Carolina”. Each October, the Lexington Barbeque Festival is held as a one-day event that has attracted as many as 160,000 visitors to the city.

In 2020, the population of Davidson County was 168,900. The largest Davidson County racial/ethnic groups are: White (76.6%), followed by Black (9.3%), and Hispanic (8.2%). In 2019 the median age of Davidson County residents was 42.5 years old, and the median household income was \$49,456.

Jersey Baptist Church is located in the Davidson County School District and is approximately three miles from Southwood Elementary School and seven miles from Southmont Elementary School and Central Davidson Middle and High Schools. We have church members who also attend nearby Churchland and Davidson-Townsend Elementary Schools, Tyro Middle School and West Davidson High School.

## Jersey Baptist Church Audience

Jersey Baptist Church consists of approximately 140 active members that desire to strengthen their knowledge of the Bible and use their individual gifts to the betterment of the community and the kingdom.

From an age breakdown, approximately 20% of the church is less than 20 years old, 45% percent of the church is between the ages of 20 and 59 and 35% of the church is 60 years of age or older.

Jersey has been the primary faith home to many members for many years and is the only church some have ever attended. Through the years, we have had many spiritual teachers, leaders, and mentors of faith who have encouraged and guided us to be faithful followers of Jesus.

# Missions and Outreach

## Mission House

Jersey's parsonage has been converted into a home for missionaries on furlough or others who may need a temporary place to stay.

## Summer Mission Trips

Jersey has participated in church wide trips to Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and West Virginia with 40+ church members and friends participating.



Pennsylvania 2018 Summer Mission Trip

## Fall Festival

Our largest outreach ministry the past few years has been our fall festival. It is a community event that provides a free, fun activity for families and kids and a way for us to share God's grace and love to others. We had over 1,000 in attendance the fall of 2021.



2021 Fall Festival at Linwood Ball Field

## Homeless Shelter

Once a month Jersey provides and serves a meal for those staying at the local shelter.

## Pastors' Pantry and Upper Room Ministries

Jersey provides food and financial support to these organizations in Lexington and Southmont. They supply food assistance to those in need.

## Blessing Box

Families in the congregation stock a box in front of the church with food supplies for those in with an immediate need.



## VBS

Summer outreach to our local children to hear and experience God's love.



2021 Summer VBS

Other ministries and outreach programs that Jersey participates in are Stephens' Ministry, Samaritans Purse Operation Shoebox, AWANAs, Sunday Children's Worship, Youth, Wednesday night Bible study, Adult Choir, Praise Team, Angel tree donations, Annie Armstrong and Lottie Moon Mission offerings.



2021 Youth at Samaritans Purse in Charlotte



VBS



2019 West Virginia Summer Mission Trip Team

# **Jersey Baptist Church Senior Pastor Job Announcement**

Jersey Baptist Church is located in rural Davidson County, North Carolina, just south of Lexington. Jersey Baptist Church is a place to fellowship, meet new friends, find encouragement, and discover God's plan for your life in a casual, Bible-centered, and loving atmosphere. Our mission statement is looking upward, growing inward, reaching outward and moving forward with Jesus. This statement reflects who we are and want to be. We strive to be a church without walls.

Jesus calls for us to reach the lost and the broken. We desire to be a community of believers that loves God and others by connecting people to Jesus. We strive to grow God's kingdom by loving, serving, encouraging, adapting, and being equipped to accomplish God's will.

Jersey Baptist Church is seeking a full-time senior pastor with excellent preaching ability, who is doctrinally sound, and has a passion for missions and pastoral care.

Jersey Baptist Church is dually aligned with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and the Southern Baptist Convention, has an active committee system, a deacon family ministry, and is dedicated to missions, service, and discipleship.

## **PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Spiritual leader of the church
- Plan, lead, and preach at the 8:30 and 11:00 Sunday worship services
- Lead all special services
- Administer ordinances
- Conduct Wednesday evening prayer/devotional service
- Teach Biblical truths
- Engage in pastor care ministries with church members in crisis, in hospitals, and homebound
- Provide leadership in all areas of church ministry & outreach
- Perform administrative duties related to the office and staff
- Meet with Deacons at monthly meeting
- Participate with other church committees and groups as needed
- Encourage and mentor all church paid staff
- Communicate with church leaders

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Seminary Educated, with at least a Master of Divinity degree
- Experience as a Senior Pastor
- Ordained Baptist Minister
- Effective interpersonal and communication skills
- Leadership and strategic thinking abilities

**DESIRED CHARACTERISTICS:**

- Practical preaching style that is relevant to our everyday lives
- Theologically Sound Doctrine
- Values Pastoral Care
- Cooperative Leadership Style
- Servant Attitude
- Team Builder
- Approachable/Humble
- Connects with multiple age groups
- Mission/Outreach Minded
- Visionary
- Caring/Compassionate

**HOW TO APPLY:**

All qualified persons must submit by email the following items to [milliejwattenbarger@gmail.com](mailto:milliejwattenbarger@gmail.com)

- Resume
- Online link to two sermon videos presented by candidate

Questions can be emailed to [milliejwattenbarger@gmail.com](mailto:milliejwattenbarger@gmail.com).