

Paid Pastoral Residency

Lakewood Baptist Church- Gainesville, Georgia

The Pastoral Residency at Lakewood Baptist Church is a 12–18 month program designed to equip men sensing a call to vocational pastoral ministry through hands-on ministry experience, theological training, and intentional pastoral mentorship in the context of a healthy local church. We believe pastors are best prepared for ministry by faithfully serving alongside experienced pastors in the ordinary life and ministry of the local church.

Throughout the residency, participants will be fully immersed in the ministry of Lakewood Baptist Church and mentored directly by our pastoral staff. Residents will have opportunities to preach and teach God's Word, provide pastoral care through hospital visits and counseling, participate in pastoral and staff meetings, and serve alongside our pastors during weddings, funerals, baptisms, and other significant moments in the life of the church. Throughout the residency, participants will be entrusted with meaningful ministry responsibility under pastoral supervision while receiving regular encouragement, evaluation, and guidance as they grow in character, conviction, and ministry skill.

Residents receive a monthly stipend as well as family housing in Gainesville, Georgia, with utilities (electricity, water, gas, and internet) provided. One of the goals of the residency is to prepare and launch men into faithful pastoral ministry. As the residency concludes, our pastoral staff will provide guidance, recommendations, and practical support as residents prayerfully pursue and interview for pastoral ministry opportunities.

This residency is for men who desire to shepherd God's people, make disciples, proclaim the gospel, and lead with humility, courage, and dependence upon God's grace. If God is calling you to pastoral ministry, we would be honored to invest in your preparation for a lifetime of faithful service.

Qualifications

- A credible profession of faith in Jesus Christ and a life marked by Christlike character.
- A completed seminary degree.
- Agreement with the *Baptist Faith and Message 2000*.
- A clear call to vocational pastoral ministry, affirmed by the leadership of a local church.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

To apply: <https://lakewoodlife.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/1162/responses/new>

If you have any questions, please contact our Missions Pastor, Dr. Benji Lavender, at benji@lakewoodlife.org