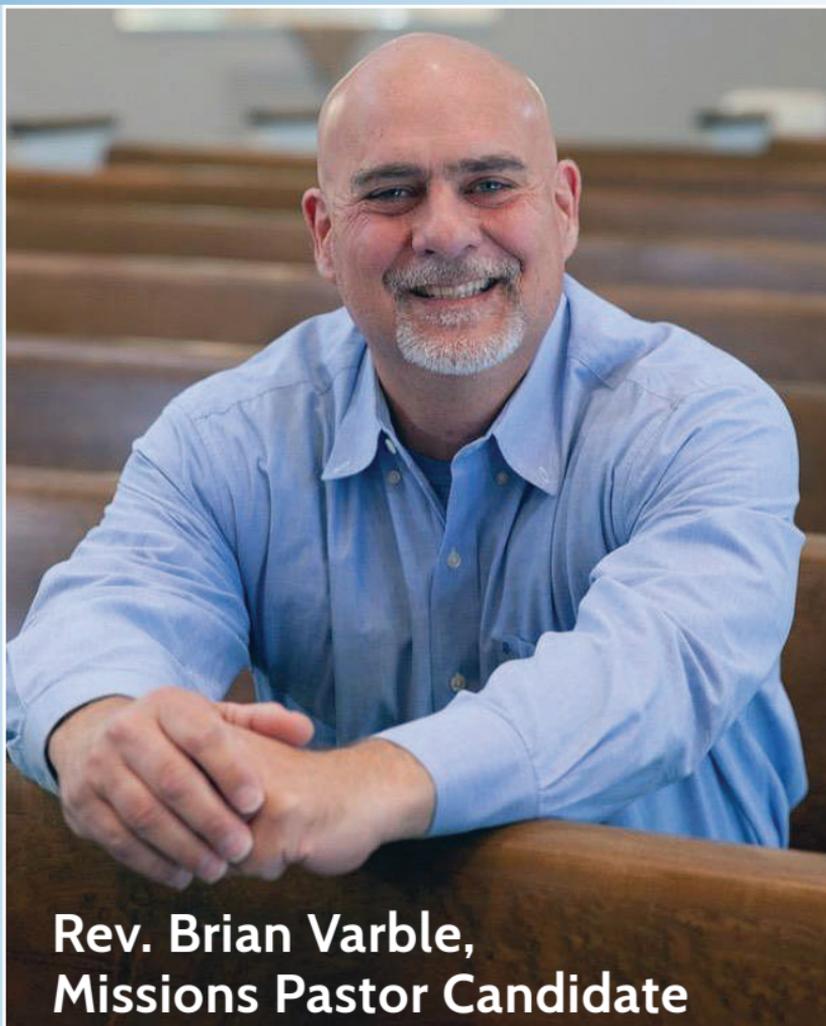


The members of the Missions Pastor Search Team (MPST) are very pleased to introduce Rev. Brian Varble, our candidate for the full-time position of Missions Pastor.



Rev. Brian Varble, Missions Pastor Candidate

ABOUT THE CANDIDATE

Brian Varble is a minister with 38 years of in-depth experience in missions and family ministries. Currently, Brian serves as Minister to the Community and Recreation at Calvary Baptist Church in Lexington, KY. Brian was ordained into the ministry in November 2000.

"I met Brian Varble almost three years ago. We are community partners that serve the needs of men, women, and children. During the pandemic, Mr. Varble assisted my organization 'Operation Making a Change' by providing space in his church for us to continue to engage and serve at-risk youth. We've also collaborated with community summer camps and created events to bring our communities together in unity."

— Gerald Gibson, Community Partner

PHILOSOPHY OF MINISTRY

"I also sincerely believe that everyone is precious and valued in the eyes of God (Psalm 139:14). All people are loved by our creator God! The church has to share the same love and grace that God has already demonstrated to us. Our relationship has to be loving, grace-filled and sacrificial! In fact, after every encounter we have with someone, that individual should feel precious and valued.

The church is driven to serve because we know the love and sacrifice of Jesus Christ, and we want others to understand and accept this amazing gift."

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Brian has been at Calvary Baptist Church (Lexington, KY) since January 2001 where he started as the Minister to Students and Families. Then, in 2011, he became the Minister to the Community and Recreation.

"I would estimate that Brian has led more than 100 youth and adult mission trips without any significant incidents. This is pretty remarkable as several of the trips have been large groups to Haiti. He is OK with making tough decisions that are sometimes not popular with the group but have to be done for the safety of all."

— Rich Mundell, Friend, and Church Member

Prior to joining Calvary Baptist, Brian was the Minister of Students at churches both in Florida and Kentucky. Brian brings extensive experience in local, national, and international missions work and collaborative partnerships.

"Brian is easy-going and laid back, so that makes interpersonal relationships with other staff members easy to develop and maintain. Again, he cares deeply for people, so he is always checking in with other staff to see how they are and if there is anything he can help with. He leads both staff and laity as a macro manager, rather than a micro manager. He sees to it that everyone is heard and fosters a relationship with each person."

— Niki Hayes, Minister of Education & Young Adults, Calvary Baptist Church

EDUCATION

Brian earned his Master of Arts in Christian Education from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Louisville, KY) in May 1994. He earned his Bachelor of Science History from Cumberland College (Williamsburg, KY and now the University of The Cumberlands) in May 1990.

Brian is a certified mentor with Kid's Hope USA, a national youth advocacy program designed to connect churches with public schools. He has also been trained to provide disaster relief in areas destroyed by natural disasters like hurricanes and earthquakes.

AREAS OF LEADERSHIP

Missions: numerous Congregational-Community and International Partnerships one of which included building Rubble homes in Haiti (2010) after the earthquake;
Ministries: food truck fellowship, benevolence, clothing closet, gym and facilities management, and recreational outreach; and **Administrative:** Church security and safety system and procedures.



ABOUT BRIAN & HIS FAMILY

Brian, born in Dayton, Ohio, grew up in St. Louis. Brian and Tammy, his wife, met while attending Cumberland College and, in 1991, they were married. They have two grown children: Brandon and Andrew. They have one daughter-in-law, Caitlyn, who is married to Brandon, and they will gain another daughter-in-law, Chelsea, when Andrew gets married this August. Tammy recently retired from a senior human resources position in Lexington, KY. Tammy is an avid and serious cook – perhaps chef is the better term.

"There are people that knew of Tammy's culinary skills at church before they knew she was Brian's spouse. And while I can't speak as to just exactly how Tammy might engage within your ministry in the future, I can say that you would be fortunate to have her as a member of your congregation. And she would be there, not just to support Brian's assigned ministry, but she would be there as an authentic member of your church."

Brian's sons have been on youth trips since they were in grade school. They were honed for the adventure of missions. And now as adult young men, they are pursuing their own careers and dreams. We were honored to have them at Calvary Baptist for the time they were here. Yes, they are supportive of their father's call to serve."

— Melinda Kelly, Friend and Church Member

Other interests of note for Brian: He and his family are "big" St. Louis Cardinals fans; they like hiking and outdoor activities; Brian and Tammy are travel bugs and self-confessed "foodies". Brian enjoys listening to 80's and 90's alternative Christian music; he lifts weights and plays pickle ball which Brian calls "the sport of the future!"

"We visited Richmond for the first time in March. We loved the vibe for the city and look forward to new adventures in Richmond. We were in worship during Domestic Missions Month, and it is evident that Bon Air Baptist has a deep love for its community and wants their community to encounter Christ through the church's missional outreach."

— Brian Varble, Missions Pastor Candidate

SEARCH TEAM & SEARCH TEAM PROCESS

Missions Pastor Search Team (MPST) members:

Meredith Van Voorhis (Chair), Chris Doyle, Kyle Fondren, Dianne Mallory-Coble, Anthony Moore, Forrest Morgan, Jon Teconchuk, Ellen Thornhill, and Cody Wilson.

Staff Liaison: Pastor Tom

The Process:

This was a living and highly interactive 'thing' that kept the team focused on the details AND the divine for the duration of the search.

See timeline and major milestones below:

2021

May

Otis Hall announced that he was taking a new position in Rochester, MN. Kelly Lindquist was appointed to serve as Interim Missions Pastor.

Jun-Jul

Selection began for search team members

Aug

MPST held first meeting; covenant signed, and made team role assignments

Sep

Position description updated and posted locally and nationally

Sept-Dec

Major revisions to church and community profiles; developed resume matrix

Dec

Deadline for resume submissions was the 31st

2022

Jan-Mar

- Completed updates to church and community profiles
- In-depth analysis of all submitted resumes based on position qualifications
- Two rounds of interviews conducted with top two candidates; arranged for in-person visit of top candidate and spouse to meet with MPST, select BABC staff and attend services at Buford Road Campus
- MPST agreed unanimously to recommend Brian Varble for the church's call, and Personnel Team extended an offer

Apr

- Information sent to BABC about Brian
- Special Called Business Meeting scheduled for May 1st

All members of the MPST and Pastor Tom met with Brian and Tammy over a lovely dinner hosted by the Teconchuk Family at their home. This informal meeting magnified the qualities Brian presented on paper and during interviews. His authenticity, ability as a skilled communicator, sincerity, compassion, and LOVE of missions were undeniable.

WHAT'S NEXT?

April 28-29:

Brian will meet with ministry leaders, their teams, and staff

May 1:

- During each service: Brian will be introduced, and he will share a bit about himself.
- At the end of each service, a Special Called Business meeting will be held, at which time the Missions Pastor Search Team will unanimously recommend the candidate for the church's call.

WHAT QUESTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

Submit ANY question you may have prior to May 1, 2022 to the Team Chair, Meredith Van Voorhis, at: babcsearchmissions@gmail.com.

