



HENDERSONVILLE
CHURCH OF CHRIST

LEAD MINISTER CANDIDATE PACKAGE



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Thank You



Dear Lead Minister Candidate,

On behalf of the Discernment Team of the Hendersonville (Tennessee) Church of Christ (hereafter "Hendersonville"), I want to thank you for taking the time to consider the opportunity to become our next Lead Minister. This Lead Minister Candidate Package was compiled for your examination. Our fifteen-member team (eight men and seven women) has diligently and prayerfully prepared this Package to help you learn more about our church and community, since you were highly recommended to us as a potential candidate for our Lead Minister position.

Our team worked closely with our elders and Interim Ministry Partners (IMP), an organization that provided valuable guidance and counsel. We gathered key information about our congregation from an internal survey of our members as well as from reviewing and updating our church history. We also reviewed best practices from churches across a variety of settings and traditions, as well as sought a deeper understanding and perspective of Hendersonville and the Sumner County community at large.

Through this process, our leadership has gained valuable insights that can help shape the future of Hendersonville. Putting those insights into action will require congregational involvement, faithful ministry of the Word, vigilant prayer, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

This is a significant season in the life of Hendersonville! In an ever-changing world, we believe God is calling us to reach out with greater boldness and dedication, embodying and sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ, who is the only source of true life both now and eternally. As we continue to ask God for direction in selecting our next Lead Minister, we ask that you pray for us as we pray for you and your family. Please feel free to contact me at any time using the contact information provided later in this packet. as you'll find my contact information shared further on in this package. May God bless you richly as you discern the best choices for you and your family in His service!

Sincerely,

Mark Massey

Discernment Team Chairman



WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED



In the process of examining and evaluating ourselves as well as our community for the purpose of accurately shaping the current standing and direction of the congregation, several assessments have been conducted leading up to you receiving this candidate package. Two assessments, the Kingdom Assessment and Community Assessment, provided details and context in these areas. The Kingdom Assessment focused on identifying how churches are meaningfully transforming lives and engaging their communities with sourcing of these key insights and best practices coming from a collection of interviews from five local churches. Complementing this, the Community Assessment includes input from local leaders, educators, public servants, and nonprofit organizations to help our church better understand how we can serve others, develop partnerships, and move forward in bringing people to Jesus and growing the church.

Kingdom Assessment

Across the churches assessed, clear patterns of health and growth emerged. Each church operates with a defined mission, measurable goals, and strong unity among elders, staff, and deacons, with leadership prioritizing shepherding and spiritual growth. Growth is driven by outward community engagement and a strong emphasis on evangelism, resulting in frequent baptisms and a strong member engagement through service opportunities. These churches are largely volunteer-driven, with leaders modeling service, supported by effective communication through social media. They have adapted to reach younger generations, but have not compromised on Bible-centered preaching, rooted in truth and relevancy. Through their growth, each see small groups as central to building relationships and spiritual depth. Teaching is aligned across age groups, with children and student ministries serving as key entry points for families. Members are more engaged when they are informed, heard, and given ownership. Several churches are known for specific community outreach efforts. Their willingness to adapt has been essential in reaching and sustaining growth across generations.

Community Assessment

The assessment consistently emphasizes a clear call from community voices for the church to become more visibly and relationally engaged within the broader area by actively building partnerships with local schools, agencies, and nonprofits. Interviewees underscored the importance of establishing regular communication and collaboration—such as routine meetings, participation in community events, and designating a consistent point of contact—to strengthen these relationships and increase the church's presence. At the same time, the surrounding community is experiencing notable changes, including rapid population growth, increasing diversity, strained infrastructure, and a rising number of un-churched individuals, all of which present both challenges and opportunities for meaningful engagement. In response, there is a clear need for outward-focused leadership that can mobilize the congregation toward intentional outreach and service through practical ministries and partnerships, such as financial counseling, foster care support, school involvement, community events, and collaboration with local organizations to strengthen the church's presence.

"City By the Lake"

Hendersonville, Tennessee offers a balance of accessibility, livability, and community. Located approximately 20 miles from downtown Nashville, the city provides an easy commute while maintaining a distinctly suburban pace. Its identity is shaped by over 26 miles of Old Hickory Lake shoreline, giving residents everyday access to marinas, waterfront parks, and outdoor recreation. Local life centers around community hubs such as Indian Lake Village, an open-air entertainment and shopping district, or Sanders Ferry Park, a recreational area for events and athletics right on the water. Hendersonville is also recognized for its strong educational foundation, with multiple public schools ranking among the top performers in Tennessee for math and reading proficiency, reinforcing its appeal to families planning to stay long term. Together, these defining qualities establish Hendersonville as a place that offers lasting value, everyday convenience, and a strong foundation for the future.

Attractions

Broadway, Downtown Nashville
Athens of the South: 25+ higher education institutions

Bridgestone Arena (Hockey, Concerts)
New Nissan Stadium (Football) - Super Bowl (2030)

Geodis Park (Soccer)
Old Hickory Lake
Ryman Auditorium
Grand Ole Opry
Nashville Zoo

city of HENDERSONVILLE BY THE NUMBERS



20
MILES AWAY
FROM DOWNTOWN
NASHVILLE



CONVENIENT
LOCATION WITH
EASY ACCESS TO
I-65, I-40, AND I-24



4th
LARGEST CITY IN THE
NASHVILLE AREA



11th
LARGEST CITY
IN TENNESSEE



20
MILES FROM THE
NASHVILLE
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT



summer COUNTY BY THE NUMBERS



POPULATION
206,973



MEDIAN AGE
40.7



POPULATION
PROJECTION GROWTH
216,758



ANNUAL
GROWTH RATE
1.75%



ANNUAL AVERAGE
TEMPERATURE
59.4*



ANNUAL AVERAGE
SNOWFALL
10"

Annual Events



Rock Castle Songwriters Night - Spring and Fall; natural beauty and songwriting culture

CMA Festival - June; four days of concerts and Nashville Summer energy

Freedom Festival - July 3rd, Largest Independence Celebration in Hendersonville

Tomato Art Festival - August; an artistic, eclectic showcase of the East Nashville vibe

Taste of Hendersonville - September, local food showcase

Veterans Parade - early November; local patriotic culture on display

CMA Awards - November; a celebration of Nashville's musical influence

Hendersonville Christmas Parade - December, classic Americana event





Church History

1893

On April 2nd, Easter Sunday, James A. Harding led a religious gathering in Hendersonville at Drakes Creek Middle School. On that day, 18 founding members signed a covenant titled "Believe," committing themselves to Christ and to living under the authority of Scripture. Later that year, the congregation constructed a one- room brick meetinghouse (pictured right), symbolizing both permanence and shared mission. This building was on Main Street in Hendersonville, beside what is now Captain D's.



1917

Between 1917–1919 formally adopted the name "Church of Christ."

1923

In 1923, tragedy struck the Hendersonville Church of Christ when a fire destroyed most of the building. The church was rebuilt that same year, using one wall and some of the bricks from the original building. The Education wing of this building can still be seen on Main Street.



1948

Radio equipment was installed and sermons were broadcasted over WHIN (Gallatin).

1973

Preaching Minister James V. Vandiver began his ministry at Hendersonville. Under his leadership, the church experienced rapid growth and expanding influence in Sumner County, a strong outward, community-focused vision, and high levels of energy, engagement, and participation. Members described this era as "Thriving, stable, and unique," marked by excitement, momentum, and unity, and a time when the church served as a catalyst for community life.

1977

In March, the congregation marched from the original building on Main Street to the new building on Rockland Road (pictured right). The church's original Pulpit and Stage Chairs are in the back lobby to this day.



1985

The Elders and Dream Committee developed a 5-year plan designed to provide every member with a service opportunity for the needs and community in Sumner County. The primary elements of this dream included expansion or creation of global missions, Whispering Pines, Christian Manor, the Church auditorium and campus, and Day School - all of which came to fruition in the coming years.

1986

Between the years of 1986-1988, the T.I.M.E program began and the first VBS was hosted in Jamaica for Hendersonville missions.

1990

New Life Counseling Service established.

1991

The church experienced a disagreement that led to approximately 20% of members leaving to form a new congregation (Community Church). Relationships were strained, and the emotional impact was substantial.

1992

Preaching Minister Keith Parker begins his 16-year ministry at the church.

2018

Les Chapman hired as the Preaching Minister for Hendersonville Church of Christ.

2020

Amidst the COVID pandemic era, church attendance declined from approximately 1,300 to 750 members. Additionally, through the years 2020-2025, six elders stepped aside and four new elders were added.

HENDERSONVILLE METRICS



AUDITORIUM

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

750 Members with weekly 150 Online Viewers
200 Attending Student and Youth Participants

SUNDAY ASSEMBLIES

Morning Worship: Sunday 9:00am
Bible Classes for all ages : Sunday 10:15am

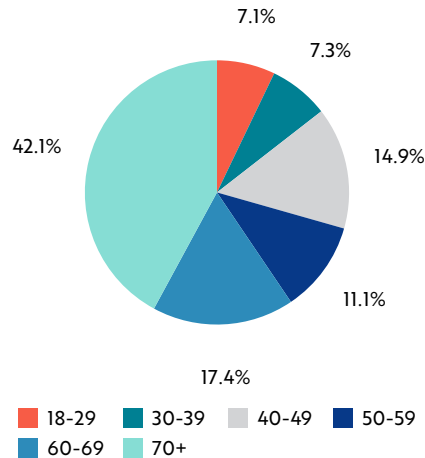
BIBLE CLASS AND GATHERINGS

Midweek Bible Class: Wednesday 6:30pm
Small Groups: Regularly scheduled throughout the month

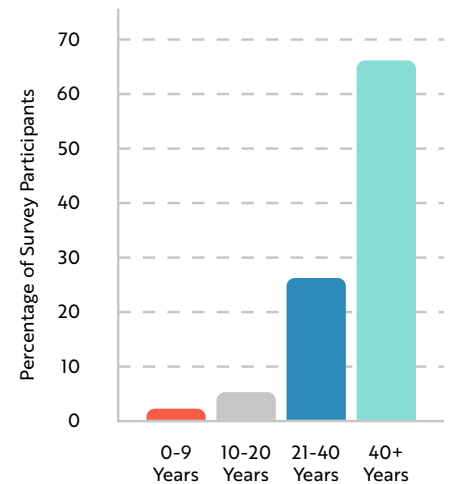


STUDENT CENTER

Age Distribution

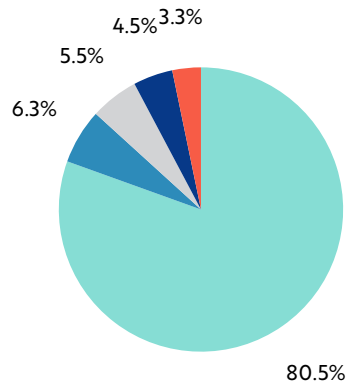


Length of Christian Walk

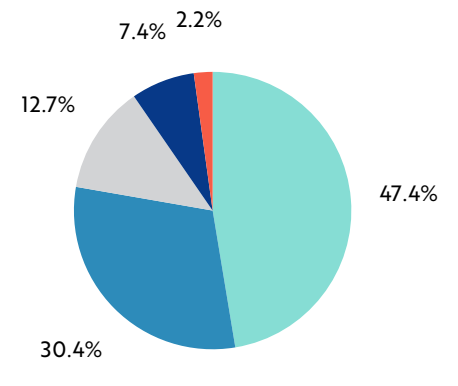


BACK LOBBY

Religious Upbringing



Family Dynamics



AUDITORIUM

- Church of Christ
- Other
- Baptist
- Non-Christian Upbringing
- Methodist

- A couple without children
- Two or more adults with child/children
- One person living alone
- Several adults living in the same household
- One adult with child/children

Statistics based off over 530 members surveyed

Outreaches

We are grateful to highlight several efforts guided by our congregation and powered by the Lord. In particular, these six initiatives are meaningful to us and, by God's grace, have extended beyond our church to serve both believers and the community.



HENDERSONVILLE DAY SCHOOL



Since 1964, Hendersonville Day School has served families in our community by providing a loving, Christ-centered environment where children learn and thrive during their formative years. The day school serves children from 6 weeks through Kindergarten, offering experiences that support academic, social, physical, and spiritual development. Our mission is simple: We exist for the sole purpose of educating children in a Christian environment that will prepare them mentally, physically, and spiritually for the future. This mission guides everything we do, with Bible lessons and Christian values woven into each day to build character, kindness, and respect. Academically, we use the Abeka curriculum to create a strong foundation for future success. Operating August through May, our team of 30 dedicated staff members fosters a safe, engaging environment where every child feels valued, encouraged, and excited to learn.



WHISPERING PINES CHRISTIAN CAMP

Whispering Pines Christian Camp, a church-owned entity, is a peaceful, year-round retreat designed to bring people together for meaningful connection with God through nature and fellowship. Located on Old Hickory Lake about 26 miles from the church, the camp features amenities like a private boat ramp, lakeside fire pit, and a wide range of recreational activities. The camp is divided into two areas: "down the hill," with the pool, craft house, cabins, picnic pavilion, and activity spaces, and "up the hill," which includes the lodge, bunkhouse, meeting areas, and commercial kitchen. With seasonal activities, flexible accommodations, an on-site caretaker, and a tradition of returning groups, Whispering Pines is an ideal setting for camps, retreats, and spiritually enriching experiences.





Outreaches

FAMILY COUNSELING CENTER

In recognition of how often mental health needs arise, our church operates a counseling center on the premises and employs two licensed therapists who provide free counseling to church members. Therapy aiding in growth, hope, and healing is a benefit many church members have utilized, and we are blessed to be able to provide this assistance. Services are also available to the community on an income-based sliding scale. Four additional licensed practitioners rent office space in the counseling center and provide services to the community. Counseling is available for children, adolescents, and adults. Areas of focus are: depression, anxiety, anger issues, Christian counseling, marital and family relationships, and grief and loss.



MISSION TRIPS

Members of Hendersonville Church of Christ currently travel to three different countries on foreign mission trips each year: Mexico, Jamaica, & Honduras.

Honduras: A small team partners with Latin America Missions to support week-long medical campaigns, provide meals, teach children, and evangelize—helping establish and grow the local congregation.

Jamaica: A group of 20–30 members visits Spanish Town to run VBS, complete service projects, and build relationships with the local church, continuing a long-standing and expanding mission effort.

Mexico: About 15 members travel to El Zorrillo each Fall Break to encourage the church through Bible teaching, food distribution, and service projects, with additional outreach at the City of Children during summer trips.



Outreaches



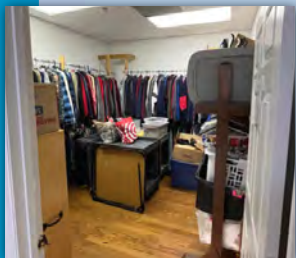
MEDICAL EQUIPMENT MINISTRY



This ministry provides essential medical equipment to individuals and families at no cost, relying entirely on donated items that are returned for reuse when no longer needed. Operating twice a week, the ministry meets its high demand, serving dozens of in-person requests and calls daily. Each year, it distributes over \$750,000 worth of equipment, reflecting both its scale and impact. Beyond meeting physical needs, the ministry offers compassionate support for overwhelmed clients arriving with stressful uncertainties and needing help navigating caregiving for the first time. Volunteers assess needs, guide equipment selection, and, when welcomed, provide prayer and encouragement. This ministry is well-known in the community for both its practical and spiritual service.

ROOM IN THE INN

Hendersonville participates in the Nashville-based Room In the Inn community program that began in 1985 and has since grown to over 200 churches that participate in providing men experiencing homelessness with food, shelter, warm clothes, and care. Every Sunday during the winter, Hendersonville hosts a group of men at our facility. The men are given an opportunity to shower and sleep in a warm room and are provided meals of dinner and breakfast during their time overnight. They are given access to a clothes closet to "shop" for necessities before they return to Nashville. There are many opportunities to volunteer for this program, such as collecting items for restocking the closet, cooking meals, serving meals, setting up the overnight area, as well as men who volunteer as Innkeepers, hosts who stay overnight with the men. Throughout the 2025–2026 Room In The Inn season, more than 225 Hendersonville volunteers contributed their time and efforts to serving 294 men through meal service and overnight hosting.



MINISTRIES



Backpack Drive

This ministry is dedicated to meeting practical needs in the community while sharing the love of Christ. The congregation comes together to collect and provide essential school supplies for local children and families. Each year, the drive creates opportunities for members to serve, give, and build connections to the community.

VBS

Each summer, the Childrens Ministry offers a multi-day Vacation Bible school in the evening with the mission of spreading Christ to children. The themed event is open to the public. Church members volunteer in various positions as group leaders, or activity leaders, as well as assisting with arts/crafts, snacks, staging, and connecting with children throughout the week.

Ladies Ministry

This ministry focuses on helping women grow closer to God, develop relationships, and serve the community. Activities throughout the year are designed to strengthen both faith & fellowship. Intergenerational connection is emphasized through events such as Galantines, the Widows and Widowers Lunch, self-defense classes, and a mentorship program connecting women of all ages.

Men's Ministry

This ministry is in place to bring together the men of the church to form a strong community and to help them discover and use their spiritual gifts. This ministry organizes assistance when a need arises so that they may serve others. Activities include quarterly prayer breakfasts, service projects, Bible study classes, men's retreats and golf tournaments.

Senior Ministry

The Senior Adult Ministry at Hendersonville provides opportunities for fellowship, spiritual growth, service, and community engagement. Through activities such as local trips, special events, service projects, and the weekly Senior Moments gathering, seniors build meaningful relationships while growing in their faith.

Benevolence Committee

Hendersonville has two benevolence committees: one for church members and one for non-members. The committee for non-members meets weekly either as a group or separately to evaluate requests. Assistance is most often provided in food credit at a local grocery store or housing assistance through a partnership with other area church services.

Camp Care

Camp CARE is a youth program operated by Tennessee Prison Outreach Ministry providing a free summer camp experience for children of incarcerated parents, helping them build resilience, healthy relationships, confidence, and emotional well-being. Camp CARE is hosted at Whispering Pines, with volunteer opportunities to serve in the kitchen and help with the medical team.

Sewing Ministry

The Sewing Ministry meets twice a month to create clothing for children in need through Magi Boxes and make prayer quilts to offer comfort, encouragement, and support to individuals facing illness, recovery, or other life challenges.

Caring Calls for Shut-Ins

This program connects volunteers with homebound church members through regular phone calls, cards, and even visits that provide companionship, encouragement, and support. Volunteers build meaningful relationships by checking in on participants' well-being and helping them stay connected to their church family.

Caring Cards

This ministry is a group of women at the church who meet monthly to write cards to church members. Examples of cards sent include birthday cards, congratulations cards, cards of encouragement, and bereavement. Each card includes a simple message and is signed by one of the ministry members.

CHURCH STAFF



Tony Brimingham began his career as a Robotic Welding Engineer after obtaining degrees in physics and civil engineering. While in this field, he developed strong technical and leadership skills that continue to influence his ministry. Following a career change, Tony has dedicated the past 30 years to ministry, serving as both Youth & Children's Minister at Hamilton and Riverchase Church of Christ. He has served at Hendersonville since 2016, where he now holds the role of Director of Ministries. Tony is passionate about serving others and considers it a privilege to help people each day through ministry. Tony has been married to his wife, Jana, for 32 years, and together they have two daughters: Lauren (25) & Megan (21).

Blake Parker serves as Executive Minister and Worship Leader at Hendersonville Church of Christ, where he combines a passion for ministry, worship, and leadership to help guide and grow the church community. Originally from Wetumpka, Alabama, Blake came to Nashville to attend Lipscomb University, where he met his wife, Angela. Together they have shared 35 years of marriage and are the parents of four children and have two grandchildren. Blake loves leading worship, encouraging others through music, and using his business experience and education to help guide the church operationally. Outside of church life, he enjoys spending time with family and cheering on the Alabama Crimson Tide.



Les Chapman is the Senior Minister at Hendersonville Church of Christ and has held the position since 2018. He is originally from Ripley, Mississippi. He and his wife, June, enjoy the mountains and the beach as well as visiting historical cities like Washington, D.C., and Chicago. Les' passion is introducing people to the love of Jesus Christ through the preaching and teaching of God's Word and challenging God's people to demonstrate their faith to the world through love for each other and unity in Christ.

Dr. Stan Wilson, born and raised in Tennessee, attended a Lipscomb school from 1st through his M.Div. and, along the way in high school, met his future wife, Cheryl. Stan is also a certified spiritual director from Lipscomb's Institute of Christian Spirituality. Stan is the Minister of Christian Formation at Hendersonville, where he focuses on Adult Education. He holds a Ph.D. in Biblical Studies of the Old Testament and Hebrew from Amridge University's Turner School of Theology. In his free time, Stan is an avid cyclist and enjoys riding for detoxing and prayerful listening. Stan and Cheryl have been background extras in four of the seven seasons of The Chosen series and have supported the series financially since 2019.



William Murphy has been serving in ministry for the past nine years. Before coming to Hendersonville five years ago as the Student Minister, working with 7th-12th grade, he served at Skyline Church and Christ in Jackson, TN and Southwest Church of Christ in Jonesboro, AR. Outside of ministry, he is a husband to his wife, Katie, and a father to a two-year old son, Oliver. He deeply loves the people and families in this community and is grateful to call Sumner County home. One of William's greatest passions is helping students and families grow in their relationship with Jesus and feel connected within the life of the church.

Molly Kate Steele has served as Kids Minister since January 2024. In this role, she oversees ministry opportunities for children and partners with families to help them grow in their faith and connection to the church. She is passionate about creating engaging, Christ-centered environments where children feel welcomed, valued, and encouraged in their spiritual development. Before joining the team, Molly served for three years at Campbell Street Church of Christ. She graduated from Freed-Hardeman University in 2016 with a degree in Child and Family Studies. Molly Kate enjoys building relationships with children, families, and volunteers and is committed to helping the next generation know and follow Jesus.



CHURCH STAFF



Suzy O'Guin is a graduate of Tennessee Tech and brings a diverse professional background spanning sales, accounting support, and administrative leadership. Since joining Hendersonville in 2010, she has served in a range of administrative roles, supporting daily operations across ministries. Her responsibilities include managing calls and walk-in traffic, worship leadership support, Whispering Pines, communications, benevolence, bereavement, senior ministry, scheduling, and vehicle oversight. She is married, with two sons and four grandchildren, and treasures time spent with her family. Suzy is grateful to be a part of this team which loves to excel at their roles and minister to this congregation and the community.

Cheryl Wilson holds a degree in Accounting and Biblical Ethics from Lipscomb University. Her professional background spans business creation, internal accounting for international companies, as well as public and nonprofit accounting. As the Business Administrator at Hendersonville, she enjoys leveraging her experience in business operations, accounting, and management to responsibly oversee Hendersonville's resources and support its mission within the local community, the church family, and international outreach. When away from the desk, Cheryl loves to be around animals and enjoy the outdoors. She is married to Stan, another staff member at Hendersonville, and they reside in Mount Juliet.



Lacy Potts has served as the Day School Director since 2020. She holds a Masters in Education and is passionate about creating a loving, Christ-centered environment where young children can grow and thrive. In this role, she oversees and supports families with children from infancy through kindergarten, combining her heart for teaching and faith to help build a strong biblical foundation in early childhood. She and her husband, William, are proud parents to Walker and Will. Outside of the classroom, she enjoys spending time with her family, relaxing at the lake, and reading.

Brian O'Guin has served as Facility Manager since 2014, overseeing the maintenance and operation of the building to ensure it remains mechanically sound both inside and out. His responsibilities include a wide range of maintenance and facility related duties that support the daily function and care of our church property. Brian is excited about the search for a new minister and looks forward to seeing the church he loves continue to grow.



Jonathan Nicholson is the Camp Caretaker at Whispering Pines, where he lives with his wife, Traci, and their dog, Bandit. Jonathan helps care for the camp through maintenance and upkeep while creating a welcoming space for people to come and experience Jesus. Whispering Pines is especially meaningful to Jonathan and Traci because they were married there in October 2024. When he's not working around camp, Jonathan enjoys fishing, hiking, traveling, and trying new foods.

ELDERS



Bill Brock has attended Hendersonville since 1975 and has served as an elder since 2016. He has been involved in various ministries over his time at Hendersonville, but Bill has always maintained a focus on helping others grow in their faith and strengthening their connection to the church. Bill is retired after spending a career in power production with TVA. Bill has been married to Susan for 50 years and have 2 children together. He strongly believes that Hendersonville is a wonderful community which focuses on service and spiritual growth.

John Johnson has called Hendersonville home for most of his life, having grown up in the congregation before attending Lipscomb University and returning to Hendersonville where he has lived for over 20 years. He spent 27 years as a business executive in the logistics industry and now works in consulting and construction management. Serving as an elder since 2021, John is actively involved in the student ministry, is passionate about mentoring younger fathers, and is helping develop a men's ministry at Hendersonville. He and his wife, Jill, have been married for over 27 years and have two sons.



Jeff Oliver has been a member of Hendersonville since his baptism as a youth and has served as an Elder for nearly five years. He has been active in finance, medical equipment, Christian Manor boards, and youth coaching, and works as a CPA and corporate finance executive. Jeff and Darlene have been married for 48 years and have three children and nine grandchildren, and he values strong community and service within the church.

Jim Pedigo has worshiped at Hendersonville since 1972 and has served as an Elder since 2021. He has been involved in a variety of ministries and serves as Treasurer on the Christian Manor board. Jim holds an accounting degree and built a 40-year career with Crain Construction (serving as CFO before retiring in 2025). He and his wife Marianne have been married for 42 years and have two children and three grandchildren. Jim loves serving in a church centered on faith, service, and community.



Glen Rodgers has been part of Hendersonville since 1972 and has served as an elder since 1997. Most of his professional career was in human resources in the manufacturing industry, and has been retired since 2012. He has spent time serving in missions, visitation, and ministries and helped initiate the counseling ministry. Glen and Tricia have been married for 57 years and have two children and three grandchildren. Glen appreciates the opportunity to serve the body and be part of a church family committed to serving and supporting one another.

Rod Stamps has been active at Hendersonville his entire life and has served as an elder since 2008. With a professional background in auditing, accounting, and healthcare finance, he currently works part-time in healthcare finance while remaining actively involved in numerous ministries, including youth and college ministry, foreign missions, prison ministry, and the finance committee, as well as serving on multiple boards. Rod and his wife, Ginger, have been married for 43 years and have two children and four grandchildren.



Kenneth Walker has been a family member of Hendersonville since 1985 when he married his wife, Shawn Walker. Shawn and Kenneth attended Lipscomb and graduated in 1986. Kenneth started a job that moved then to Birmingham in 1987 and eventually returned home in 2000. He has served as an elder since 2017. He has recently retired from the packaging and distribution business. Kenneth has served as a deacon on the benevolence committee as well as other ministries. He currently serves on the board of Hendersonville Home Bound Meals. He and Shawn have 3 daughters and 2 grandsons.

Nathan White has been a member of Hendersonville since 1998 and has served as an elder since 2021. He holds a background in entertainment, having managed a touring and sound company, and presently works as a GM of Blackhawk Audio, Inc. Nathan has spent considerable time in ministry to students, Vacation Bible School, and adult classes. In addition, he has dedicated himself to officiating in multiple sports for over 40 years. Nathan and Debbie have been married for 33 years and have two sons. Nathan treasures the opportunity to serve and be part of a church committed to Christ and His works.



IDEAL MINISTER PROFILE



The Hendersonville Church of Christ is seeking a Lead Minister for our congregation, working under the leadership of the Elders and in partnership with the existing staff to establish and execute the vision to carry out the mission of the church.

Job Responsibilities

- Will preach sermons on Sunday mornings
- Will teach Bible classes on a rotating basis
- Engage and connect by developing personal relationships with member families
- Mentor and lead the ministry staff
- Work with the worship leader and other staff to coordinate thematic and congruent worship experiences
- Participate in opportunities outside of Sundays and Wednesday with the church family to get to know and serve the church and the community

Minimum Qualifications

- Significant ministry experience, with preference of at least ten years in professional ministry role(s) and five years of regular preaching experience
- Undergraduate degree (Bible/Ministry degree strongly preferred)
- Spiritually and emotionally mature
- Ability to preach Biblically based, practical sermons that equip and motivate people across varying ages, biblical knowledge, backgrounds, and theological perspectives
- Ability to personally connect across varying ages, backgrounds, and theological perspectives
- Committed to being part of the church and local community
- Commitment to continual learning and personal growth

Preferred Qualifications

- Married, with strong family leadership and life balance
- High emotional intelligence and excellent interpersonal skills
- Disciplined, organized, and well prepared as a preacher and teacher
- Skilled leader able to develop and utilize gifts and talents of ministry staff
- Engaging and strong communication skills, including ability to effectively use technology
- Proven ability to engage and connect within the community
- Visionary and collaborative leader
- Flexible and adaptable in preaching and teaching styles
- Willing to challenge the congregation to more deeply live out our faith

Letter from Brent



A Note from Interim Ministry Partners,

My name is Brent Isbell, and it has been my privilege to serve as consultant to the Hendersonville Church of Christ during its search for a new Lead Minister. One of the highest compliments I can give a church's leadership is this: They did the hard work. That is certainly true of Hendersonville. The Discernment Team is thoughtful, ambitious, and highly effective. With the support of the elders, they have resisted the temptation to rush this process, and have instead invested the necessary time to discern God's direction with wisdom and care.

At Interim Ministry Partners, we help churches navigate seasons of transition, and one of the most important parts of that journey is learning to listen well. Throughout this process, I have been deeply impressed by Hendersonville's commitment to seeking honest feedback from elders, staff, members, neighbors, and, above all, the Lord. Rather than simply waiting for the next minister, they embraced this season as an opportunity to become healthier. The elders renewed their covenant together, key relationships were strengthened, and fresh attention was given to the church's mission, vision, values, and identity.

One of our favorite expressions at IMP is, "We cannot know who we need until we know who we are." Hendersonville is not a perfect church—none are—but it is a faithful one. This congregation has invested significant time and energy to gain a clear understanding of its identity, its community, and the opportunities God has placed before it.

Allow me to be direct: I have come to love this church, and I recommend it to you for serious, prayerful consideration. This is an exceptional opportunity for a gifted leader to serve alongside loving shepherds, an outstanding ministry staff, and a congregation eager to follow Jesus. Hendersonville is blessed with remarkable resources, a beautiful setting, and, most importantly, people who genuinely desire to advance God's kingdom.

Perhaps the Holy Spirit is using this opportunity to prompt your next step. Please pray for the Hendersonville Church of Christ as they seek God's will. If you would like to learn more, I would welcome the opportunity to visit with you. You may also contact Mark Massey, the Discernment Team Chair (731-453-4742). I can be reached at brent@teamimp.com or by call or text (325-428-7282).

Sincerely,

Dr. Brent Isbell
Interim Ministry Partners



NEXT STEPS

Pray

Take time to be still before the Lord—speaking with Him in prayer and listening for His Spirit’s gentle leading. Our desire is for you to walk with clarity and peace in God’s calling on your life as you enter this next chapter, wherever He may lead—even if that path is not to Hendersonville.

Seek Counsel

Discerning God’s will can feel overwhelming when you try to navigate it alone. If you sense the Lord may be leading you toward Hendersonville, consider seeking the counsel of Spirit-filled, trusted brothers and sisters. They can pray with you, help confirm what you’re sensing, and offer wise, loving guidance along the way.

Tell Us

Should you like to know more about this opportunity, please email our Search Team Chairman, Mark Massey (pmarkmassey@gmail.com) or Dr. Brent Isbell, Interim Ministry Partners (brent@teamimp.com). If you are interested, please be prepared to share the following items with Mark or Brent: a current resume, a one-page Philosophy of Ministry, online access to sermons, and a head shot and/or family picture.

Stay Tuned

This process is prayerfully designed to unfold with care and patience, allowing us to thoughtfully discern God’s will together. We appreciate your grace as we spend time in prayer and meaningful conversation with you about the path ahead. Please be assured that every interaction will be handled with the utmost care and kept in strict confidence.

DISCERNMENT TEAM



Garrett Blackburn



Emily Castle



Jeff Castle



Mark Ciampa



Leanne Hayes



Robin King



Mark Massey



Rachel Peden



Barry Potts



Mike Ryan



Monica Sartain



David Villacorta



Kevin Walker



Georgia White



Beth Williams



HENDERSONVILLE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

TO LOVE AND GLORIFY GOD,
PROMOTE SPIRITUAL GROWTH
IN HIS FAMILY, AND REFLECT
JESUS BY SERVING AND
TEACHING OTHERS.

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