

**Derek Hicks**  
**In View of a Call / Crossroads Baptist Church**  
**September 16, 2018**



With our Lord's guidance and direction, we are excited to announce our lone candidate Derek Hicks as the next Senior Pastor for Crossroads Baptist Church. Please join us in supporting and praying for our recommendation during this special and important time in the life and ministry of our church. – Pastor Search Committee

**Personal Information:**

- Birthdate: May 25, 1982
- Married to Lauren Redkey Hicks on December 18, 2004.
- Lauren is a graduate of East Texas Baptist University (B.A. Speech Communications) and Lamar University (M.S. in Speech Language Pathology)
- 2 Children: Ali Kate (8 yrs) and Kyle Jordan (2 yrs)

**Education:**

- High School: Newton High School 2000
- College: Stephen F. Austin University 2004, B.S Agriculture Development
- Seminary: Liberty University 2014, Master of Religious Education  
Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (currently pursuing Master of Divinity)

**Ministry Experience:**

- First Baptist Church Hemphill, TX Senior Pastor 2014 – Present (4 years)
- First Baptist Church Buna, TX Minister of Students & Recreation and Spiritual Development 2007 – 2014 (7 years)
- Licensed to the Gospel Ministry by First Baptist Church, Buna, Texas, November 12, 2006.  
Ordained by First Baptist Church Buna, February 12, 2012.

**Missions & Evangelism:**

- **International:** 2010- 2016 Saskatchewan, Canada (11 different trips)  
2007 Ecuador  
2011 Zambia
- **National:**  
2013 Led off-site VBS in Buna, TX  
2012 Inner city VBS in Beaumont, TX  
2012 Led Youth Missions Week in Brookeland, TX  
2010 Led Youth Missions Week in Buna, TX  
2009 Led Youth Mission Trip to South Louisiana

**Other Experiences, Service, Hobbies and Interests:**

- August 2004 - January 2007, Buna High School teacher and coach:  
Agricultural Teacher for grades 9-12 and coached football and baseball on the Junior Varsity and Varsity levels
- Sabine Valley Association Moderator
- Various positions with Sabine Neches Baptist Association
- East Texas Baptist Encampment Trustee
- Chaplain of Commissioner's Court for Sabine County
- Education Foundation Committee member for Hemphill ISD
- Hemphill Little League baseball coach
- Hunting & Fishing
- Working out / fitness
- Spending time with family, especially at Amusement & Water Parks

### **In Derek's own words:**

I grew up in Newton, TX, as the son of two educators within Newton ISD. They reared me in church and taught me that loving the Lord was of upmost importance. I accepted Christ as my Lord and Savior in June of 1998 at the age of 16. I surrendered to the call of ministry soon after in the summer of 1999, but I did not act on it until 2006. I have served in full time church ministry since 2007, where I have had the opportunity to have hands on experience in the areas of children, youth, missions, outreach, and pastoring. I believe the Pastor of a church should love people, preach and teach the infallible Word of God and provide visionary leadership in the areas of discipleship, outreach, and missions. My goal is to lead and train people to go and be the hands and feet of Jesus to the unknowing world. Lauren and I have prayed since the beginning of this process for the Lord's clear direction. He has given us full peace throughout the process of meeting with the search committee, visiting with the staff as well as seeing the church and community. We are excited about our future here at Crossroads Baptist Church and look forward to meeting and getting to know all of you!

The following are the first five theological questions your search committee asked me at the very beginning of this process, and I would like to share these with you too. I adhere to the Baptist Faith and Message 2000. – Derek Hicks

### **Scripture**

The Scriptures are divinely written by men, are true and trustworthy without error (inerrant) as it is stated in The Baptist Faith and Message. I think 2 timothy 3:16-17 sums it up really well when it says, "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

### **God**

There is one true and living God. He is the creator, redeemer, and ruler of the world. He is all powerful and holy. In Him there is no beginning and no end. He reveals Himself distinctly to us in the trinity as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

### **Salvation**

Salvation is God's way of redeeming creation back to Himself through Jesus Christ. Salvation is open to all who will put their faith in Jesus Christ as their Savior. Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation as Jesus Himself said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6 ESV)

### **The Church**

The church is the Body of Christ working to build the global kingdom within the community it serves. It is autonomous and made up of baptized believers who actively serve using their unique gifts given by God. The church participates in the two ordinances, Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

**The Family**

The family is a God given institution that is the foundation of human society. The family is made up of one husband (male) and one wife (female) who are committed to each other in marriage for a lifetime. The husband and wife are equal before God, but the man should portray the spiritual leadership within the family as the family is a picture of the way God relates to people. Through this union, children are made part of the family by blood relation and adoption. Parents are responsible for providing their spiritual education, by teaching the process of conversion to faith in Christ followed by a life of service.

## Thoughts on Derek from the Pastor Search Committee

“Derek has a broad range of interest and experience in spiritual development and outreach of the Church. I really like his focus on evangelism and missions.”

- Jamie Vance

“Derek preaches the Word and is spiritually mature beyond his age. He is a very good listener whose responses are well thought out and insightful.” - Joe David Brown

“I have no doubt that Derek is the right man at the right time to lead and shepherd Crossroads; it has been amazing to see how God has led us to him throughout this process. Although it’s very apparent he is humble with a servant’s heart, his ability to preach The Word and disciple will be a blessing to our community.” - Sam Hammontree

“Derek has an obvious love for the Word and growing people spiritually. I love his desire to do missions!” - Paula Nichols

“I was impressed with his standing among other ministers and peers and their confidence in him! I also love his desire to be active in all missions, foreign and local. He and his wife Lauren make a great team in the ministry.” – Terry Gresham

“My first impression of Derek was that he was a man already 100% committed to our mission of loving God, loving others and making a difference. His genuine love for the Lord and people shines bright!” – Chasidy Guthrie

“I am so excited to see Derek and his family coming to CRBC. He has a passion for preaching God’s Word and a commitment to strong missions programs. His enthusiasm is contagious and he will help take our church to the next level of discipleship and serving others.” - Jerry Benson

“Derek and Lauren are genuine and caring. They connect to people and point them to Christ. I am very excited about them coming and look forward to seeing God’s plan unfold at Crossroads.” - Joshua Stewart

“I believe that Derek is very relatable and he shares our passion for reaching the lost both locally and abroad.” - Kristy Grubbs