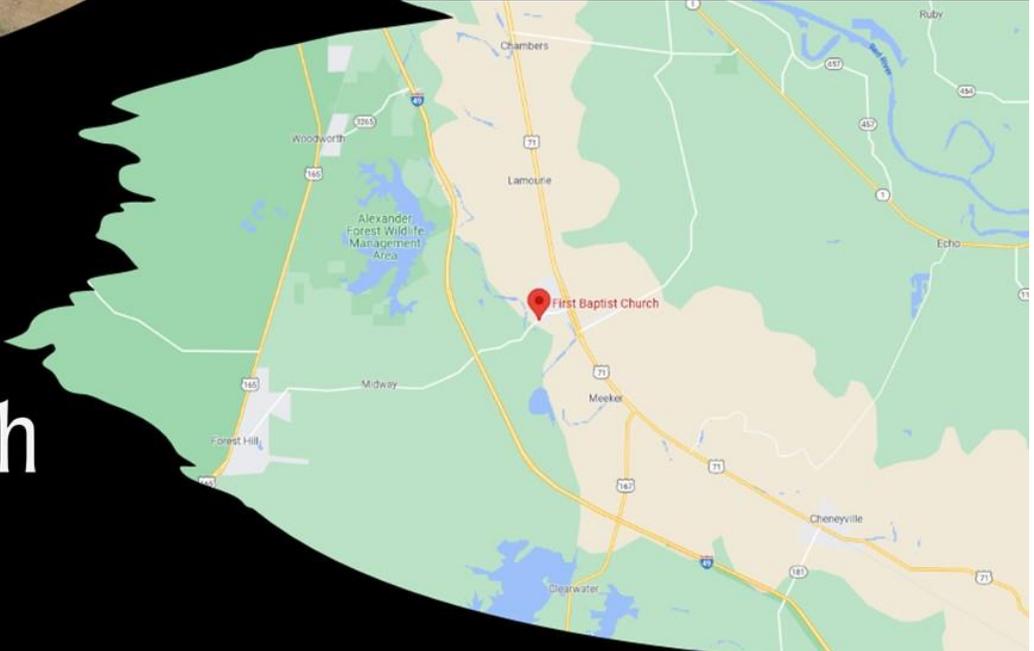


# Multi-site Proposal



 **First Baptist Church**  
**PINEVILLE**

# **Multi-Site Recommendation**

## **by the Deacons of First Baptist Church Pineville**

### **February 3, 2022**

On December 12, 2021, First Baptist Church Lecompte voted to seek partnership for the purpose of revitalizing and rebuilding the ministry of First Baptist Church in its community. They acknowledged their needs and humbly recognized that they need help from an existing, healthy congregation that will come alongside and help lead them to be a healthy, growing church that will reach and minister to their community.

After prayerful deliberation, Lecompte's Fresh Start Team recommended that First Baptist Church Lecompte partner with First Baptist Church Pineville for the purpose of revitalizing and rebuilding their church's ministry. The team further recommended that First Baptist Church Pineville adopt First Baptist Church Lecompte for rebirth as a second campus of First Baptist Church Pineville. Preparation for rebirth will begin immediately and continue through August of 2022. Launch of the new Lecompte campus of First Baptist Church will be scheduled for September of 2022. This recommendation was affirmed by the membership of First Baptist Church Lecompte on January 30, 2022.

Therefore, the Deacons of First Baptist Church Pineville recommend that First Baptist Church Pineville accept the request of First Baptist Church Lecompte and begin the process of adopting the church in Lecompte for the purpose of relaunching that church as a campus of First Baptist Church Pineville. A vote is scheduled for Sunday, February 13, 2022, during both morning worship services.

#### **Overall Description of the Multi-Site Plan of First Baptist Church Pineville/Lecompte:**

A site staff team will lead the Lecompte campus. The team will report to Pastor Stewart and the senior staff at Pineville. Pineville will secure the staff so that the church's ministry philosophies may be carried to the Lecompte campus. This team will include a Campus Pastor along with music, children, and youth leaders. Some of this staff will be fulltime, some part-time. The Campus Pastor will lead and shepherd the members of the Lecompte campus. For the first six months to a year, Pastor Stewart will preach on Sunday mornings to build consistency between the campuses and create the new identity. Eventually, the Campus Pastor will phase into the preaching role. The Campus Pastor and other ministry staff from Lecompte will attend staff meetings with the Pineville staff. Further organization actions will include:

- A budget for the Lecompte campus will be developed and overseen by the Pineville finance committee. Lecompte representatives will serve on the committee with the Campus Pastor as an ex officio member.
- Joint business meetings will be held to celebrate what God is doing and carry on the work of the church.
- A combined deacon body will meet monthly to hear reports and work together in ministry.
- An "Adoption Steering Committee" will be developed with members from each campus and Pineville's attorney to draw up any legal documents that are needed for the combined church.
- A "Site Leadership Team" will be developed to oversee the ministries and programs of the Lecompte campus alongside the staff. This will be staffed with people from Pineville as well as Lecompte.

On a determined date, we will hold the last service of First Baptist Church Lecompte, and the site will go "dark" for about a month. Lecompte members will worship with Pineville for those weeks to be further introduced to Pineville members, experience the church, rest, and prepare for relaunch. A bus will be available for anyone who needs it. After the weeks of combined services, we will launch FBCL as a new site of FBCL.

To accommodate two campuses, Pineville will go back to one service to minimize the impact of sending a music and leadership team to serve at Lecompte and allow Pastor Stewart time to preach and travel between campuses. The Sunday schedule could be as follows:

#### **Lecompte:**

9:15 Worship  
10:30 Sunday School

#### **Pineville:**

9:15 Sunday School  
10:30 Worship

## FAQs

### Why are we doing this?

FBC Pineville has been blessed by God with revitalization. He has brought us from a season of desperation in 2006-2008 to a season of fruitfulness and health. We now feel a responsibility to help other churches become strong again. Further, for at least ten years, our leadership has been praying and seeking the Lord's guidance and timing for a multi-site endeavor, realizing this would likely take the form of a revitalization merger. When we were approached by FBC Lecompte, our leadership saw the hand of God: (1) we already have a connection with FBCL through Pastor Stewart and other members of our church, (2) FBCL has no debt and some financial assets, (3) FBCL has a strong core who want to see their church grow again, and (4) FBCL has the facilities and location to become a regional campus in South Rapides Parish. A second campus in South Rapides Parish will help us continue our goal of reaching Central Louisiana for Jesus Christ.

### What does "adoption" mean?

In a human adoption, a child comes into a new family. Ties with the old family end, and the child receives all the rights and privileges of joining the new family. In a church adoption, things work in a similar manner. The current FBC Lecompte will cease to exist, and the members will become part of the FBC Pineville family. We will become one church meeting in two locations. The Lecompte campus will use FBCP's constitution and by-laws, statement of faith, governing documents, etc. In the first year, a team will work on amending the by-laws to accommodate the unique needs of multi-site.

### What will the name be?

The name for the Lecompte campus will remain First Baptist Church. We plan to use the same logo as the Pineville campus with only the location changed and an added line "A Campus of First Baptist Church Pineville."



### What are the financial liabilities?

FBCL is debt-free and has about \$225,000 in various accounts. The church also owns a parsonage. The facilities are in good condition but will need power-washing, updated landscaping, minor repairs, new signage, updated audio-visual and stage lighting in the sanctuary, as well as some updates to the sanctuary. This facility work will be prioritized based on what is most needed for launch. We feel this can all be handled with the finances Lecompte already has along with an upstart grant from the Louisiana Baptist Convention. The daily functions of the campus should be able to be carried out with the current level of giving and a three-year grant from the LBC. Should supplemental funds be needed from the Pineville campus, the finance committee will consider those needs.

The income and expenses for the Lecompte campus will be tracked separately from the Pineville campus and overseen by the Pineville finance committee. This committee will have representation from the Lecompte congregation.

### Who will preach?

From April – July, a team of people from Pineville will preach. Pastor Stewart will preach on April 3, and then from Easter Sunday, April 17, through Sunday, May 22 for a *Change Me* emphasis at both campuses. From May 29- July 31, a team from Pineville will preach, taking Lecompte through the information we teach in our new and prospective member class.

After official launch of the new campus, Pastor Stewart will preach on Sunday mornings for the first six months to a year to help carry over the DNA of FBCP. After this time, the Campus Pastor will begin preaching. The lead team will handle Wednesday night until a Campus Pastor is called. At that point, the Campus Pastor will begin leading Wednesday evenings. There will be no Sunday evening services to allow for planning meetings as well as outreach and fellowship events.

### How will this affect the Pineville staff?

All Pineville staff will have additional responsibilities to help lead the transition, develop leaders in their areas, and coordinate ministry. They welcome these responsibilities with excitement about what God is doing. Our staff's jobs are more effective when you serve. Therefore, be faithful in service and run with your ministry! As a staff is called for the Lecompte

campus, responsibilities will be handed over, and the Campus Pastor will supervise. Pineville's senior staff will maintain oversight.

### **How will site staff be found and called?**

Our Committee on Committees will recommend a search committee composed of members from both campuses. This committee will be tasked with finding all initial staff for the campus. This will include a full-time Campus Pastor and other positions as allowed by the budget.

### **Why is FBC Pineville returning to one service?**

Initially, moving to one service will build momentum by bringing the church back together. As we move into the Lecompte work, one service at Pineville will free up volunteers to lead the service at Lecompte. This change also allows Pastor Stewart to preach at both campuses. Moving to one service will minimize the impact of sending a team to Lecompte and allow Pineville to continue growing. When an additional service option is needed at Pineville, we will make the necessary additions.

### **Does Lecompte have any staff?**

Lecompte has a part-time music minister, part-time secretary, and part-time custodian. We will meet with these individuals to discuss how their roles may change or continue. The interim pastor at Lecompte concludes his service at the end of March.

### **What happens to the Lecompte leadership (deacons, Sunday School teachers, music, etc.)?**

The Lecompte deacons will join our deacon body and continue serving at the Lecompte campus. All deacons' meetings will be joint meetings with some meetings held in Lecompte. The Site Leadership Team will assess the current Sunday School leadership and other volunteers at Lecompte and make any needed adjustments. We anticipate using as many of Lecompte's current leadership and volunteers as possible who agree with the vision and future direction of the new campus.

### **How can I get involved?**

There are numerous ways to get involved as we take this step of going multi-site. At the Lecompte campus, we will need music leaders, media personnel, Sunday School teachers, and more. In the season of preparation, we will need people to help with outreach, facilities updates, promotion, and more. Through it all, we need a great deal of prayer!

### **What are the steps moving forward?**

Once FBC Pineville votes to proceed, we will develop the Adoption Steering Committee and Site Leadership Team. The Adoption Steering Committee will make the legal preparations for uniting the churches and schedule a final vote. The Site Leadership Team will begin leading through the interim and making plans for the launch. A basic timeline is as follows:

#### **February – March**

- Build Adoption Steering Committee
- Build Site Leadership Team
- Secure financing help from LBC
- Identify facility needs.
- Begin staff search
- FBCP begin oversight of finances and campus in partnership with existing Lecompte structure.

#### **April – July**

- FBCL ministries minimize, and emphasis is focused on preparation for September launch.
- Official votes at each campus for merger and dissolution of FBCL. FBCP assumes leadership.
- Begin addressing facility needs

- Train and recruit staff and lay leaders.
- Women's Event at FBCP / Men's Event at FBCL
- *Change Me*. Conclude with joint service at FBCL on May 22 at 6:00 p.m. with Steve Horn.
- FBCL join FBCP for picnic on May 1.
- Begin work on by-law revisions.
- Outreach work, prayer services, prayer walks
- Publicity begins for relaunch.
- Final service of FBCL. Church closes.

#### **August**

- FBCL members come to FBCP. We will assist with transportation.

#### **September**

- Re-launch