

# REV. JORDAN M LUMBARD

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## **Pastor Josh Grimes and the Board of Directors for First Church of the Open Bible,**

Thank you for taking the time to prayerfully consider my wife and I as Pastors for First Church of the Open Bible of Dayton, OH. Lindsey and I have been married for over 19 years and have been in pastoral ministry just as long. We have 4 beautiful daughters, Madison who is 17 and finishing her senior year, Maiah who is 15 and finishing her freshman year, and our twins, Mackenzie and Mollie, who are 8 and finishing second grade. Currently I am the lead pastor at New Point Church, a non-denominational church, in the Des Moines, IA area.

For the past several months we have sensed the Lord bringing us into a season of transition. While we have loved our time in Des Moines, it is clear to us that this season is coming to an end. With a desire to finish well in our current ministry assignment, we have patiently waited for the Lord to give us permission to pursue what's next. Our heart has been to not just respond to a good opportunity, but to be led by a sense of calling. We believe we now have that, that the time is now, and that the journey we have been on over the last 20 years has uniquely prepared us for this exciting opportunity!

I was hired 10 years ago, in June of 2015, to be the Teaching Pastor at New Point, where I served the senior pastor for 2 years before being appointed the next lead pastor, during a season of crisis. This is a position I've held now for nearly 8 years and a role that has produced more growth in me than I could have ever imagined. We faced some adversity, trusted God, refused to quit, and saw a church stabilize and begin to thrive once again. It is amazing just how faithful God has been.

Even though the last ten years of my ministry career have been spent outside of Open Bible in a non-denominational context, Open Bible is where my ministry career began and it's where I have deep roots. As a fourth-generation pastor within this movement, I have a unique value for the OBC heritage and legacy. My wife and I are excited about the possibility of returning to Open Bible and ministering at your church.

Most people who know me would say that I am a gifted teacher and communicator, who is highly creative, who thinks outside the box, is full of passion, and a quality leader. While I believe all of that is true, you must know that above all those things, pastoring people is what makes me come alive; It's what I do. For as driven as I can be, I love nothing more than to help people who are hurting and broken, find freedom and experience the life Jesus bled and died for them to have. My wife

Lindsey is highly gifted and called in her own right. She is a Godly woman who hears from God, who loves people, and who deeply loves ministry. There is still, after all these years, nothing more rewarding for us than to see Jesus transform someone's life!

In fact, developing resilient followers of Jesus has been my mission over the last 8 years. I have spent much of my time as a lead pastor, dreaming, creating, and implementing different strategies around helping people possess a deep and abiding faithfulness to Jesus, a hunger for God's presence, and a love for their neighbor. I believe when the Christian life is lived as it is intended, it offers an alternative and compelling vision to the world for how human beings are meant to flourish.

Additionally, I really don't like to work alone. I am a team player who sees the real danger of a ministry that is dependent on a single charismatic leader or personality. The best way to avoid this is to do ministry as a team. This is also the most effective way to keep pastors healthy and to equip the body of Christ to do the work of the ministry. I am a big believer in the Church and believe the best days are still ahead because the fields are still ripe for the harvest!

I know you are facing a big decision for this wonderful church, and we're humbled to be considered. We're at peace, trusting the process, and trusting that our life is in the Lord's hands. We are confident God will make the next steps clear for you and for us.

I greatly appreciate you taking the time to consider me and my family for this position.

Thanks,

- Jordan Lumbard