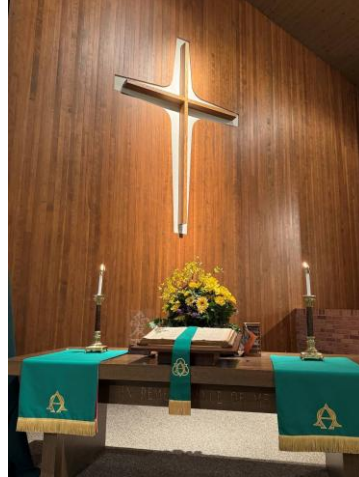


EMERALD COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP PROFILE

2025



Emerald Community Fellowship



Emerald Community Fellowship, located in Eugene, Oregon, is searching for a new pastor to serve our congregation and community. Our new pastor will lead the shaping of a new vision for the church in the neighborhood and the city, and shepherd the congregation both collectively and individually.

We are a missional church with a legacy of mission and ministry. We hope to broaden our impact on our local community, and deepen our own relationships with God and one another. We want to continually grow in our understanding of what it means to live out sacrificial love.

Vision for Ministry

We are actively seeking a vision for Emerald Community Fellowship. We anticipate this to be our highest priority for the coming year. We want to broaden our impact on our local community, and deepen our own relationships with God and one another. We want to continually grow in our understanding of what it means to live out sacrificial love.

Matthew 22:37-39

'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

Idea Generation/Decision Making Processes

Emerald Community Fellowship always seeks the guidance of God. We seek to hear His voice through prayer and ideas generated by members of the body. We try to include the entire congregation in major decisions.

Emerald's leadership team is comprised of at least four church members and the pastor. The moderator provides leadership for that group and facilitates church business meetings. The leadership team creates and administers the annual budget, and the congregation reviews and approves the budget. ABC/USA churches are autonomous and independent congregations. We determine our priorities and our annual budget accordingly.

An idea can be generated by anyone in the body of the church. Depending upon the nature of an idea, it may be taken up by the leadership team or another applicable group. If needed, after discussion and refinement, the idea may be presented to the congregation.

Ministerial/Minister Priorities

When it comes to shepherding a congregation and guiding them on their spiritual journey, the qualities of a pastor play a pivotal role. A pastor is not just a religious figurehead but also a spiritual mentor, counselor, and leader. They are entrusted with the task of nurturing and guiding their flock towards spiritual growth and well-being.

What Emerald Considers Essential

This is a list of essential qualities and experience that Emerald is looking for in our new pastor:

- Education. That is, to be formally educated themselves and be engaged in learning as an ongoing endeavor. Be able to educate a diverse range of others effectively.
- Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written.
- Active listening skills.
- Empathy and compassion.
- A sense of humor.

- Common sense.
- Integrity, and a track record of it being tested.
- A commitment to servant-style leadership.
- Flexible, collaborative and creative!
- Plays well with others, especially volunteers.



A recent worship service at Emerald

What We Believe

Our beliefs are part of what bind us together in Christ. We have an official statement of faith as well as by-laws. Some of those beliefs are listed below.

God

We believe there is one true living God who is the Creator and sustainer of the universe and particularly of humankind.

God is the Creator of all living things. God is love.

Jesus

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

He was fully human and fully God. His resurrection conquered death.

Holy Spirit

We believe in the Holy Spirit is our Counselor and God's spirit gifted to us.

Spirit comforts us and prays for us. The Spirit is the essence of God the Father and Jesus Christ.

The Bible

We believe the bible to be inspired and is a revelation of God's nature.

It is beneficial for us to study. It must be interpreted for our day.

Baptism

We believe baptism is a public proclamation of faith in Jesus Christ. Church membership does not require baptism. We practice baptism by immersion.

It is an outward sign of an inward change.

Lord's Supper

We believe the Lord's Supper is a celebration of the gift of life. We meet to share this ritual monthly, or other times as desired.

It is a reminder of Christ's love for us.

Emerald's original chapel

Our Story

In 1952 approximately 50 members of the First Baptist Church of Eugene began meeting together to discuss their common interest in a strong commitment to the work of American Baptist Missions. Emerald Baptist Church was formed in 1954, under the denomination of American Baptist Churches, holding the first worship service on May 2 of that year. Emerald has been served by nine pastors, the longest-serving being the current pastor, Anthony Doheny, who has served since 2003.



Below are many significant highlights that stand out in Emerald's history:

1956	The first building was erected on our current site. After the new sanctuary was built, this became Emerald's education building for Sunday school, nursery, and pre-school space. The church offices were also housed here.
1963-1972	Emerald purchased two rental houses and a store adjacent to the sanctuary. The store was renovated into a fellowship center with a fully-furnished professional kitchen. The two houses were eventually sold, with the proceeds now invested in the ABC Foundation.
1968	The current sanctuary was built.
1979	The burning of the Sanctuary mortgage was celebrated on Emerald's 25 th anniversary.
1990	One of the rental houses became the House of Hope, used in a variety of ways including housing homeless families, battered women, and immigrants, until it was sold.
2004	Emerald marked 50 years, with most of the former pastors in attendance at the celebration.
2005 and 2009-2016	During this time, Emerald spent many weeks in Tijuana, Mexico, sending work groups, supplies, and funds to build Deborah's House, a sanctuary for women wanting to get away from their less-than-ideal home situation to seek a better life for themselves and their children.
2006-2009	Emerald partnered with Hosea Youth Services to host an overnight shelter site for at-risk or unhoused young women during the school year.
2009-2020	The Eugene Chinese Christian Church leased the education building for their weekly worship gatherings as well as many activities and events, including a Chinese language school.
2013	Emerald Baptist Church changes its name to Emerald Community Fellowship.

- 2013-present Emerald volunteers one day a month at The Dining Room, a non-profit organization that provides meals to those in our community who are in need, working under the guise of Food for Lane County.
- 2019-present City Salt Church, a local four-square church who had used our campus off and on, begins leasing the fellowship center ("The Box") for their worship time.
- 2020-2022 During the pandemic, Emerald began an online worship service, using the "Zoom" platform, to maintain our worship time together. We continue to provide the hybrid worship experience each week for those who, due to a myriad of reasons, are unable to attend worship in person.
- 2021-present The Trauma Healing Project, a local non-profit group, begins leasing the education building, providing many services to those in our community recovering from trauma in their lives.

Missions continue to be an essential focus. We pledge 9% monthly of our general fund gifts to ABC United Mission support. Emerald also supports each month several individual missionaries. In addition to Hosea Youth Services, Emerald supports several local charities with clothing drives, school supplies, and socks.

Following is a list of the pastors who have served at Emerald and their years of service:

1954 – 1961 Reverend Charles Moore
1962 – 1969 Reverend James Merlin
1969 – 1982 Reverend Marvin Friesen
1970 – 1979 Reverend Jack Kiekel
1983 – 1985 Reverend Harley Hunt
1987 – 1990 Reverend Thomas Kramer
1991 – 1997 Reverend Richard Roy
1998 – 2002 Reverend Don Cowell
2003 – 2026 Reverend Anthony Doheny

Location

Eugene is the 2nd largest city in Oregon, located in the Southern Willamette Valley. Eugene is consistently rated among the best places to live by many polls and magazines in the country, including Livability.com. Eugene has outstanding school systems and health care options locally. Eugenians appreciate healthy lifestyles, cultural diversity, and the arts.

Boasting four seasons, there are excellent recreational activities in town or just a short drive away. We are 60 miles from the Oregon coast (to the west), about the same distance to the Cascade Mountains to the east, and two hours south of Portland, Oregon's largest city. It is a mid-sized city with a relaxed feel, but some larger city-type cultural features like the Hult Center and a variety of music venues. There are abundant local hiking trails, biking trails, and parks. Emerald's campus is just a few blocks from the University of Oregon, a nationally recognized research university that hosts regional, national, and international track events (hence the nickname "Track Town USA") as well as having a very successful Oregon Duck's athletics program that joined the Big10 Conference in 2023.



Hendricks Park



University of Oregon Campus

What we Offer to the Pastor

Emerald Community Fellowship will provide an annual salary, housing allowance, social security offset, health care subsidy, and comprehensive retirement plan.

Who Are We

Emerald Community Fellowship began 71 years ago as Emerald Baptist Church. ECF was formed by a group of people that wanted to be focused on missions. That tradition has continued. Current members are involved with a seasonal evening shelter project that offers overnight shelter during cold winter nights as well as with The Dining Room, a free restaurant open four days each week.

Our current partners in ministry, who rent or utilize one of our three buildings, include City Salt Church, the Healing Trauma Project, and Collegiate Christian Fellowship. South



Eugene High School is adjacent to the church and utilizes the church as a testing site a few times annually.

Our numbers are small, about 25 current, active members. We are financially stable and want to see how new ideas for enriching our community life may be birthed and nourished. Our demographics reflect our community. Our members include people from a variety of ethnicities, occupations, and world views. We have several retired

missionaries or ministers, teachers and government workers, people from the phone industry or the auto industry, and others working as caregivers, either as a professional or as a role in their family, or both. Given its size, Emerald enjoys diversity and unity. We are united in our belief that God continues to call us to be active now and open to change in the future. We believe in the fundamental value and dignity of each person and that Jesus' invitation to love one another embodies that truth.



The Role of the Laity

We are to serve one another in love, Galatians 5:13.

We are to use our spiritual gifts to serve and uphold one another. We are called by Christ to care for the physical and spiritual needs of others.

The Role of Our Pastor

Our new pastor will lead the shaping of a new vision for the church in the neighborhood and the city, and shepherd the congregation both collectively and individually.

“Preach the gospel every day. If necessary, use words.”
(Augustine)





Looking over Eugene from south hills

Other Important Notes

Commitment to American Baptist Churches/USA

Emerald will remain in alliance with the values and beliefs of ABC/USA. We will support its interdenominational approach and its mission to help people both physically and spiritually.

Ecumenical witness

We are all one in Christ.

We must look beyond our differences to what we share.



Trauma Healing Project building



City Salt Church uses The Box for their services