

**Church Name:**

Canton First Methodist Church

**Location:**

930 Lower Scott Mill Road, Canton, Georgia

**Job Title:**

Lead Pastor (full time)

**Position Start Date:**

We seek to fill this position by June 2027

**About Canton First:**

Founded in 1842, Canton First Methodist has served as a spiritual anchor in Canton and Cherokee County, Georgia, for more than 180 years. We are a vibrant, multi-generational church committed to sharing the hope of Jesus Christ through worship, discipleship, and mission.

Rooted in our Wesleyan heritage, we are experiencing a renewed missional urgency. The same Spirit that birthed this church now calls us to GLORIFY God in everything we do, AMPLIFY His message of grace, and MULTIPLY by making disciples who make disciples and planting churches who plant churches.

**Our Mission Statement:**

**“Canton First Methodist Church exists to glorify God and make disciples by sharing our lives with others so that everyone will find hope-filled life in Christ. We are Christ-followers, called to live missionally by intentionally aligning our lives to participate in God’s redemption of all creation. In other words, we look for what God is doing and join Him in it.”**

*Canton First Methodist Church exists to glorify God and multiply disciples by training and equipping Christ-following SERVANTS who are LAUNCHED to SERVE others in a community that is seeking a HOPE-FILLED LIFE.*

*This life is found in IDENTITY, PURPOSE, and BELONGING in Christ. We serve others with a deep passion for MEETING PEOPLE IN THEIR PLACE OF NEED and EMPOWERING them to live in a LIFE-GIVING RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST.*

**The Pastor We Are Praying For . . .**

We are seeking a Spirit-filled, biblically grounded, and mission-driven leader who will shepherd our congregation into its next season of fruitfulness and multiplication. The next Lead Pastor will carry forward our mission while discerning fresh vision from the Lord for this new chapter.

**Essential Spiritual Gifts**

*The next lead pastor will need to embody and model these gifts:*

- *Leadership – able to cast compelling vision, align people and resources, and steward the congregation’s influence regionally.*
- *Teaching – grounded in biblical truth and equip people for generational multiplication.*
- *Evangelism – passionate about reaching the next generation of families and creating a culture where people encounter Christ and are disciplined into maturity.*
- *Wisdom and Discernment – skilled at navigating complex decision with humility, balancing continuity with Spirit-led innovation.*

### *Vital Ministry Experiences*

*Because of our church’s heritage, present reality, and future calling, the next pastor will demonstrate experience in:*

- *Building disciple-making cultures that raise up new leaders and foster church multiplication.*
- *Leading established congregations through seasons of transition, helping people process change while sustaining momentum.*
- *Serving beyond the local church in equipping, training, or coaching roles; reflecting Canton First’s call to be a pacesetter church within the Global Methodist movement.*
- *Reaching and discipling young families while honoring and engaging older generations.*
- *Fostering environments where the Holy Spirit’s presence and power are evident in worship, mission, and discipleship.*

### *Critical Leadership Qualities*

*The qualities of the next pastor must align with both Canton First’s DNA and its future trajectory:*

- *Vision Alignment: Able to embrace and articulate Canton First’s vision and mission in a way that ensures continuity and ownership by the whole church.*
- *Team Equipper: Not a solo visionary but a leader who equips, empowers, and releases staff, lay leaders, and members to serve in their spiritual gifts (Ephesians 4:11–13).*
- *Courageous Faith: Willing to lead boldly in uncertain times, take Spirit-led risks, and model dependence on God.*
- *Servant Leadership: Embodying Mark 10:45, leading with humility and resisting the temptation to build a personality-driven ministry.*
- *Spiritual Resilience: Able to withstand the pressures of transition, conflict, and change while staying rooted in prayer and abiding in Christ.*
- *Missional Passion: Carrying the same urgency that birthed the church in 1842, with passion for reaching people in their place of need with the hope of Christ.*

**Contact Information:**

Please send inquiries to The Reverend Herzen Andone, Presiding Elder, at: [handone@hillsidegmc.org](mailto:handone@hillsidegmc.org)

*This position profile was developed by the Governing Board of Canton First Methodist Church and reflects our commitment to prayerful discernment, transparency, and excellence in leadership transition.*