



## ONECHO BIBLE CHURCH

11361 Almota Road

Colfax, WA 99111

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August 2026

### Re: Senior Pastor Ministry Calling

Dear Brother in Christ,

Onecho Bible Church is seeking God's will and leading in directing us to the next senior pastor whom He has chosen to shepherd our church family. If you believe that God may be placing this call on your life, we invite you to submit a cover letter and resume to [lstueckl@gmail.com](mailto:lstueckl@gmail.com).

A brief church profile and ministry description are included to help introduce Onecho Bible Church to you. Please also visit our church website: [onecho.org](http://onecho.org). While there, please view the Onecho Bible Church Mission Field Documentary located at [onecho.org/media](http://onecho.org/media) as it conveys the heart of our church for missions.

To those applicants whom we believe God is leading us to consider more carefully we will send a doctrinal and ministry questionnaire. You will also have opportunity to submit copies of sermons and other ministry materials that would aid us in getting to know you and how God is working through you. For applicants we believe God appears to be confirming, next steps would include some or all of the following: virtual and/or in-person interviews, opportunities to meet church staff and our church family, and an invitation to share God's Word with us at a Sunday morning worship service.

Thank you very much for considering ministering through Onecho Bible Church. We look forward to getting to know you. May God truly bless you in Christ Jesus as you continue to love and serve Him.

In Christ,

*B. B. Stueckle*

Pulpit Committee Chair

# ONECHO BIBLE CHURCH

## Church Profile & Senior Pastor Opportunity

*Colfax, Washington • The Palouse*

### Who We Are

Onecho Bible Church is an independent Bible church located in the Onecho community outside Colfax, Washington, in the heart of the Palouse. We are governed by our membership, subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, while recognizing the value of mutual counsel and cooperation with churches of like faith. For nearly 150 years, believers have gathered on this ground to worship Jesus Christ, and our congregation today remains what it has long been: a family of farmers, ranchers, tradesmen, professionals, and their households, committed to the Word of God, to one another, and to reaching our community and the world with the gospel through worship, edification, and evangelism.

After 24 years of faithful ministry, our senior pastor has announced his intention to resign in or before May 2027. In accordance with our bylaws, the church council has constituted a pulpit committee, and our congregation is prayerfully seeking the man God has prepared to shepherd this flock for the long term.

### Our History

Onecho's roots go back to 1876, when a group of Methodist families began meeting in a log schoolhouse at the foot of Cemetery Hill. In 1890, Mennonite families who had emigrated from Germany and Switzerland began worshipping alongside the Methodists, organizing as a congregation in 1893. In a remarkable act of cooperation, the two groups built a shared church building in 1895 on donated ground — the same site our church occupies today. Early sermons were preached in German and repeated in English.

The congregation adopted the name Onecho Bible Church by vote in 1964, reflecting its settled identity as an independent, Bible-centered church. The present sanctuary was completed in 1981, and our Family Center was dedicated on July 4, 1998. The name “Onecho” itself comes from a pioneer post office operated by J.R. Wicks, remembered as “The Father of Onecho.”

### What We Believe

Our Articles of Faith (Constitution, Article 3, Revised January 2024) affirm:

- The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the infallible Word of God, verbally inspired in the original autographs, inerrant in all that they affirm — in matters of theology, history, and science — and the supreme and final authority of faith and conduct. We hold to a literal interpretation of the Bible honoring literary style, historic context, authorial intent, and grammatical construction
- One God, eternally existing in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
- Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin, and is truly God and truly man

- The resurrection of Christ's crucified body, His ascension, His present ministry as High Priest, the blessed hope of His personal, premillennial, and imminent return for the Church, and His glorious appearing with the Church to set up His earthly kingdom
- The Holy Spirit is a Person, co-equal with God, who convicts the world of sin and regenerates, indwells, guides, teaches, and empowers the believer to live in victory over sin. Every believer is baptized by the Spirit at conversion; no gift is the sign of that baptism, and the sign gifts, given primarily to establish apostolic authority, gradually waned as the New Testament was completed
- God created man in His own image, male and female — two distinct, complementary genders that together reflect the image and nature of God. In Adam's sin the whole human race fell and, apart from Christ, is spiritually dead and lost
- Jesus Christ died a substitutionary death upon the cross, by grace providing salvation for all who believe on Him, justifying them on the ground of His shed blood
- All who by repentance and faith receive Christ become children of God; eternal life is a present possession; at death believers' spirits depart to conscious blessedness with Christ; at His coming for the Church their bodies will be raised and transformed
- The eternal, conscious punishment of those who persistently reject Christ; the Church as all who in this dispensation truly believe — the body and bride of Christ, whose mission is to witness for Him among all nations
- Two ordinances: believer's baptism, an outward symbol of new life in Christ, and the Lord's Supper, a memorial picturing His substitutionary sacrifice
- The reality and personality of Satan, who will ultimately be cast into the Lake of Fire

Our Church Covenant further commits our members to godly living, stewardship, family devotions, hospitality, reconciliation, the biblical definition of marriage as the union of one biological man and one biological woman, and the defense of human life from conception through natural death. The full constitution & bylaws will be provided to serious candidates, and candidates will be asked to affirm the Articles of Faith and Covenant unreservedly and to complete a doctrinal questionnaire.

## How We Are Governed

Onecho's government is congregational, vested in the membership. A church council composed of at least six elders — men elected by the congregation to staggered three-year terms — together with the senior pastor serves as the board of directors of the corporation and is directly responsible to the membership. The senior pastor serves as a non-voting member of the church council and of every committee.

Five standing committees carry out the church's work under council oversight: Property & Finance, Christian Education, Missions & Outreach, Worship & Music, and Fellowship. Business meetings are governed by Robert's Rules of Order, with the annual meeting each January and voting by secret ballot open to active members eighteen and older.

Membership is open to believers twelve years of age and older who give evidence of the new birth, have received believer's baptism, and affirm the Articles of Faith and Covenant. Members covenant to attend faithfully, give generously, guard the church's good name, and submit to their spiritual leaders according to the Scriptures.

## **Our Congregation Today**

- Average Sunday attendance: 110, with approximately 70 active members.
- Staff: Senior Pastor and a Pastor to Families/Youth (Todd Kinley/25 years ), supported by office/volunteer staff.
- Annual budget: consistently met by congregational giving. Debt free
- Facilities: sanctuary (1981), educational and administrative wing, and Family Center (1998) on our historic site

## **Ministries**

- Sunday morning worship every Lord's Day
- Family and youth ministry under our Pastor to Families/Youth: Wednesday night youth group with historically 15-30 youth but 50-70 in the last year or two with the addition of many unchurched youth
- Annual Family Camp — a cherished all-church tradition following harvest encouraged in our bylaws under the fellowship ministry
- Missions & outreach: Eighteen to twenty supported missionaries
- The church owns farm ground whose income additionally supports special missions over and above the church supported missionaries
- Women's and men's ministries, Bible studies, small groups
- Worship & music ministry overseen by our Worship & Music Committee in consultation with the pastor: style dependent on the particular volunteer musicians on any given Sunday

## **Our Community**

Onecho sits in the rolling wheat and legume country of the Palouse in Whitman County, a few miles from Colfax, the county seat (population about 2,800). The Palouse is one of the most productive dryland farming regions in the world, and agriculture sets the rhythm of life here — including church life; a pastor who understands that spring work, harvest, and fall work shape the calendar will be at home.

We are within 20–30 miles of Pullman, Washington and Moscow, Idaho, home to Washington State University and the University of Idaho, giving our rural community unusual access to university-town amenities, medical care, and regional airports while retaining its small-farm-town character. Spokane is roughly an hour north. The area offers outstanding hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreation.

## **The Pastor We Seek**

Our bylaws require that the pastor accept unreservedly the Articles of Faith and Covenant of Onecho Bible Church and meet the qualifications set forth in 1 Timothy 3:1–13 and Titus 1:6–9, with candidates considered as to spiritual condition, spiritual gifting, previous experience, and educational qualifications. His duties are to preach the Word of God in purity and power, assist in every department of the church, visit and comfort the sick, admonish and correct the indifferent, administer Baptism and the Lord's Supper, and endeavor to maintain the peace and unity of the congregation. Beyond those requirements, we are asking God for a man who:

- Preaches the Word: a faithful expositor who feeds the flock from the whole counsel of God, in full agreement with our Articles of Faith
- Shepherds people: visits, counsels, marries, buries, and knows his sheep by name — and wants to be known by them
- Leads among elders: works humbly and persuasively within our council structure as a non-voting shepherd among voting elders, and as a non-voting member of all committees
- Keeps an exemplary walk: gladly embraces the standard our bylaws set for all church officers, who for the sake of the flock refrain from things likely to give offense, including alcohol, tobacco, non-medical drugs, and profanity
- Reaches the lost: has a heart for evangelism in a community where many are church-ed by heritage but not converted
- Builds up families and youth: partners with our Pastor to Families/Youth and equips parents to disciple their children, as our Covenant calls every home to family devotions
- Equips the saints: encourages and enables members to serve in all areas of Christian ministry

Education and experience: seminary degree preferred; at least 3 years full-time ministry preferred

## The Search Process

In accordance with our bylaws, the church council has constituted a pulpit committee of church members. Our winnowing process, bathed in prayer, is:

- Review of resumes and doctrinal questionnaire
- Review of recorded sermons from select candidates
- Video interview with a committee member followed by reference, background, and credential checks (with the candidate's written permission)
- In-person visit and interviews, then a candidating weekend with the congregation
- Recommendation of a single candidate to the church council, which will call a special meeting of the membership; an affirmative vote of at least seventy-five percent of present and voting members is required to extend a call

All inquiries are held in strict confidence. To apply, please send a resume, a brief statement of faith and philosophy of ministry, and links to two or three recent sermons to [lstueckl@gmail.com](mailto:lstueckl@gmail.com). Questions may be directed to committee chairman Bob Stueckle, 509-595-0874, [lstueckl@gmail.com](mailto:lstueckl@gmail.com).

*“And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.” — Jeremiah 3:15*

# ONECHO BIBLE CHURCH

## Senior Pastor — Ministry Description

11361 Almota Road, Colfax, Washington 99111

onecho.org • [lstueckl@gmail.com](mailto:lstueckl@gmail.com) • Adopted by the Church Council July 25, 2026

### Position Summary

The Senior Pastor of Onecho Bible Church is called by God and the membership of the church to shepherd this congregation under the Chief Shepherd, the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Peter 5:1–4). His central work is to preach the Word of God in purity and power, to care for the flock personally, to equip the saints, and to maintain the peace and unity of the congregation. He serves alongside the elected elders of the church council as a non-voting member of the council and of every committee, leading by teaching, example, and persuasion. This description is subordinate to, and should be read alongside, the Constitution & bylaws of Onecho Bible Church (Revised January 2024).

### Qualifications

- A man who gives clear evidence of genuine conversion, a settled call to pastoral ministry, and a consistent walk with the Lord Jesus Christ that manifests His presence in personal and family life
- Meets the qualifications of an overseer set forth in 1 Timothy 3:1–13 and Titus 1:6–9
- Accepts unreservedly the Articles of Faith and Covenant of Onecho Bible Church, and is able to teach them with conviction
- Gladly embraces the standard our bylaws set for all church officers, who for the sake of the flock refrain from things likely to give offense, including alcohol, tobacco, the non-medical use of drugs, and profanity
- Educational preparation: seminary degree preferred; at least 3 years full-time ministry preferred

### Ministry of the Word

- Preach in the Sunday worship service, maintaining an organized, well-planned schedule of preaching that feeds and edifies the church from the whole counsel of God
- Plan the order of Sunday worship in cooperation with the Worship & Music Committee
- Lead, teach, and help train teachers for adult Sunday school in cooperation with the Christian Education Committee, and be available to lead or staff Bible studies and prayer meetings
- Review the curriculum and content presented in Sunday worship, Sunday school, and Bible studies for faithfulness to Scripture and our Articles of Faith
- Administer the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, and conduct weddings and funerals

## **Shepherding & Outreach**

- Know the flock and be known by it: make regular contact with people through home visitation, hospital and care-facility visits, and presence at community activities
- Counsel individuals, couples, and families from the Scriptures; act as a peacemaker and mediator in conflict; and admonish and correct the indifferent with patience and grace
- Follow up with visitors, new contacts, and referrals, and lead the church by example in personal evangelism in a community where many are churchied by heritage but not converted
- Encourage the congregation in daily prayer for one another and for gospel opportunities in our community
- Participate in the events of the lives of our people and community as God opens doors, and represent the church graciously in the wider community, including participation in area ministerial fellowship(s) as conscience and our doctrinal convictions allow

## **Leadership & Administration**

- Serve as a non-voting, ex-officio member of the church council and all standing and temporary committees (Property & Finance, Christian Education, Missions & Outreach, Worship & Music, and Fellowship), giving counsel and advice as appropriate
- Prayerfully commend vision, goals, and means for the church's ministry to the council and congregation as God leads
- Plan and execute the general activities and special services of the church year, such as Good Friday, Easter sunrise, and Christmas Eve services, and serve as master of ceremonies at church functions when asked
- Meet weekly with, mentor, and encourage the Pastor to Families/Youth and any other staff, bearing responsibility for their work and their care
- Care for the routine upkeep of the parsonage (if the parsonage is desired) with the Property & Finance Committee responsible for major maintenance

## **Personal & Family Life**

- Sustain a devotional life of prayer and the Word that precedes and undergirds all public ministry
- Manage his own household well (1 Timothy 3:4–5), guarding time for his wife and children, and modeling the family devotions to which our Covenant calls every home
- Guard his integrity in counseling settings, finances, and all dealings, being just in his dealings, faithful in his engagements, and exemplary in his manner of living

## **Accountability & Term**

- Called by the membership by an affirmative vote of at least seventy-five percent of members present and voting at a special congregational meeting
- The call is for a term of three years, renewable without limit; the church council conducts an annual evaluation that takes into consideration the congregation's satisfaction with church life and its pastoral leadership
- Responsible to the church council on all matters, meeting with the council at least monthly, and through the council to the membership of the church

- Resignation requires at least three months' written notice to the church council, which may be shortened by mutual agreement

## Compensation

- Annual salary negotiable based on education, experience, and family circumstances
- Partial subsidy of medical and medical insurance costs
- Option of a four-bedroom, two-bathroom, three-story parsonage with a two-car garage near the church building, or a housing allowance of similar value current condition and any housing-allowance alternative
- Minimum two weeks' vacation annually

*“Shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.” — 1 Peter 5:2–4*