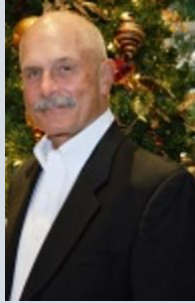


COVER LETTER FOR



Michael J. Young, Sr.

Dear Pastor Search Committee,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I am writing to express my interest in serving as Senior Pastor within a conservative evangelical or theologically Reformed congregation. After decades of ministry in preaching, discipleship, church leadership, and pastoral care, I remain deeply committed to faithfully shepherding God's people through the clear and uncompromising teaching of His Word.

I was ordained in a Baptist context in 1990 and was licensed in the Nazarene church in 2006, and have served in a variety of pastoral roles, including itinerant preaching, interim pastorates, associate pastoral leadership in evangelism and discipleship, and church planting. In 2006, I founded The White Stone Fellowship in Virginia, where I served as Lead Pastor, and I continue today in a pastoral and teaching role through both in-person and online ministry.

My calling is centered on three core priorities:

- **Preaching the Word of God faithfully** using sound hermeneutics and careful exegesis
- **Making and equipping disciples** through intentional teaching and personal shepherding
- **Leading the church in spiritual unity and mission** without compromise in doctrine or practice

In addition to ministry experience, I spent over four decades building and leading a successful life insurance agency, overseeing dozens of staff and agents and serving thousands of clients. This background has strengthened my ability to lead organizations, develop people, and provide wise counsel in complex situations.

My wife Betty and I have been married since 1968 and have walked together in faith since our conversion in 1974. We are currently members of Covenant Naples Church (PCA) in Naples, Florida, where we have been faithfully involved for several years.

I understand that some search committees may prioritize formal seminary degrees or younger candidates. While my path has been somewhat different, I have devoted decades to the serious study of Scripture and pastoral ministry, and I remain active, energetic, and fully engaged in the work to which God has called me. My focus has always been not only knowing the Word, but helping people faithfully live it.

You will find additional teaching samples, written materials, and doctrinal positions at my ministry website:

<https://whitestone2020.com/>

I would welcome the opportunity to speak with you further and to learn more about your congregation, its needs, and how I might serve you in this season.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

In Christ,

Michael J. Young

Estero, Florida

804-436-3689

m.j.young.sr@gmail.com

Resume Outline For

Michael J. Young

Estero, Florida

804-436-3689

m.j.young.sr@gmail.com

<https://whitestone2020.com/>

Pastoral Profile

Senior pastor with decades of experience in preaching, discipleship, church leadership, and pastoral care. Committed to the authority of Scripture, faithful exposition of God's Word, and equipping believers for spiritual maturity and service. Experienced in church planting, organizational leadership, and shepherding congregations through growth and transition.

Core Ministry Strengths

- Expository Preaching & Teaching
 - Discipleship & Spiritual Formation
 - Pastoral Care & Counseling
 - Church Leadership & Vision Casting
 - Evangelism & Outreach
 - Church Planting & Development
 - Organizational Leadership
-

Ministry Experience

White Stone Fellowship – Estero, Florida (Online & Local Ministry)

Lead Pastor & Director | 2008–Present

- Provide ongoing preaching, teaching, and discipleship through local and online platforms
- Develop written theological resources, Bible studies, and discipleship materials
- Lead and support home fellowship ministry initiatives

White Stone Fellowship – White Stone, Virginia

Founder & Lead Pastor | 2006–2008

- Planted and established local fellowship focused on discipleship and evangelism
- Led preaching, teaching, and pastoral care
- Facilitated transition and integration of members into other congregations upon departure

Associate Pastor – Evangelism & Discipleship

Whitestone, Virginia | 2000–2006

- Oversaw discipleship programs and evangelistic outreach
- Assisted in preaching and pastoral leadership

Itinerant & Interim Ministry

Various Churches | 1991–2000

- Served as pulpit supply, interim pastor, and evangelist
- Provided preaching, teaching, and leadership support to multiple congregations

Deacon – Baptist Church

1985–1990

Additional Professional Experience

M.I.P.C., Inc. – Life Insurance Agency

Founder & President | 1991–2018

- Built and led agency with 20+ staff and 40+ agents
 - Served over 20,000 clients
 - Developed leadership, counseling, and organizational management expertise
-

Military Service

United States Army Security Agency (Military Intelligence)

1968–1976 | Honorable Discharge

Education & Training

- Studies in Business Administration – Virginia Commonwealth University
 - Ministry Training – Boyce Bible College
 - Pastoral Counseling Certification – Baptist Association (Richmond, VA)
-

Ordination

- Ordained (Baptist), Virginia – 1990
-

Publications & Teaching Resources

Available at: <https://whitestone2020.com/>

- The Book of Revelation (Commentary)
 - A Disciple's Guide (Discipleship Resource)
 - Multiple Bible studies and teaching series
-

Personal



Married to Elizabeth (“Betty”) Young since 1968

Two sons, three grandchildren

Member, Covenant Naples Church (PCA), Naples, Florida

References and Sermon video

Available upon request

Michael J. Young – Doctrinal Statement

I affirm the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired, inerrant, and sufficient Word of God, the final authority for faith and practice. I am committed to the faithful exposition of Scripture using sound hermeneutical and exegetical principles.

I believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—coequal in power and glory.

I believe that God created all things for His glory and that humanity was created in His image but fell into sin through Adam's disobedience. As a result, all people are sinners by nature and by choice, wholly unable to save themselves apart from divine grace.

I believe that salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. Jesus Christ, fully God and fully man, lived a sinless life, died as a substitutionary atonement for sin, and was bodily raised from the dead. His righteousness is imputed to believers, who are justified by faith apart from works.

I affirm that salvation is the work of God from beginning to end. The Holy Spirit regenerates, indwells, sanctifies, and seals believers, enabling them to grow in holiness and persevere in faith. While I recognize ongoing theological discussions regarding the extent and application of God's sovereign grace, I affirm both the necessity of God's initiative in salvation and the responsibility of all people to repent and believe the gospel.

I believe the Church is the body of Christ, composed of all true believers, and is called to worship God, proclaim the gospel, make disciples, and live

in loving obedience to Christ. The local church is to be governed biblically, led by qualified elders, and committed to sound doctrine and faithful practice.

I affirm the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper as instituted by Christ.

I believe in the personal, visible return of Jesus Christ, the resurrection of the dead, the final judgment, and the eternal state of both the saved and the lost.

Pastoral Philosophy Statement

Pastoral Philosophy – Michael J. Young

My calling as a pastor is to shepherd the people of God through the faithful ministry of the Word, the intentional care of souls, and the clear leadership of Christ's Church.

At the center of my ministry is a commitment to **expository preaching**. I believe the primary task of the pastor is to proclaim the Word of God accurately, clearly, and applicationally so that the people of God are equipped to live in obedience to Christ. Scripture must not only be explained, but brought to bear on the hearts and lives of the congregation.

I am equally committed to **making disciples, not merely attendees**. The Church is called to maturity, and that requires intentional investment in teaching, mentoring, and equipping believers to grow in their knowledge of God and their obedience to Him. Every believer should understand their calling and be actively engaged in the work of ministry.

Pastoral care is essential to shepherding. I believe in knowing the people, walking alongside them in both trials and joys, and providing biblical counsel that leads to spiritual growth and Christ-centered living. Ministry is not only from the pulpit, but from personal presence and faithful care.

I also believe in **biblical leadership and clear direction**. A church must be guided with conviction, humility, and clarity. Leadership should be rooted in Scripture, carried out with integrity, and focused on the spiritual health and unity of the body.

The mission of the Church is to **glorify God through worship, edify believers, and reach the lost**. Evangelism and discipleship are not

separate callings but part of the same mission. A healthy church will be both grounded in truth and active in outreach.

Finally, I believe that the Church must stand firmly on biblical truth **without compromise**, while demonstrating the love, humility, and grace that reflect the character of Christ. Truth and love must never be separated.

My desire is to lead a congregation that is biblically grounded, spiritually mature, unified in purpose, and actively engaged in advancing the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Michael J. Young – Statement of Faith

I affirm the Holy Bible as the inspired, inerrant, and infallible Word of God, written by men divinely inspired and preserved by God. It is the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct and is sufficient for all aspects of life and godliness.

I believe there is one true and living God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each fully God and equal in divine perfection.

I believe that God created humanity in His image, but through Adam's fall, all people inherited a sinful nature and are separated from God. Every person stands in need of redemption and is unable to save themselves apart from God's grace.

I believe that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone in Jesus Christ. Christ lived a sinless life, died as a substitutionary atonement for sin, and was raised bodily from the dead. Salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. All who truly repent and believe in Christ are saved.

I believe that the gospel is to be proclaimed to all people, and that every individual has the responsibility to respond in repentance and faith. I affirm God's sovereign role in salvation while also affirming the genuine offer of the gospel to all.

I believe the Church is the body of Christ, composed of all believers, and that the local church is an autonomous congregation under the Lordship

of Christ. The church exists to worship God, proclaim the gospel, make disciples, and equip believers for ministry.

I affirm two ordinances given by Christ: believer's baptism by immersion as a testimony of faith, and the Lord's Supper as a remembrance of Christ's sacrifice.

I believe that every believer is called to live a life of holiness, empowered by the Holy Spirit, growing in obedience to God's Word.

I believe in the personal, visible return of Jesus Christ, the resurrection of the dead, the final judgment, and the eternal destiny of all people—everlasting life for the redeemed and eternal separation from God for the lost.

Michael J. Young – Statement of Faith

I believe the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, is the inspired, inerrant, and authoritative Word of God. It is the final authority for all faith, doctrine, and practice and is sufficient for teaching, correction, and training in righteousness.

I believe in one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God is sovereign, holy, just, loving, and worthy of all worship.

I believe that humanity was created in the image of God but fell into sin and is now separated from Him. All people are sinners by nature and by choice and are in need of salvation.

I believe that Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man, born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, performed miracles, died on the cross as a substitutionary sacrifice for sin, and rose bodily from the dead. He is the only way of salvation.

I believe that salvation is a gift of God's grace received through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ. Those who believe are forgiven, justified, and made new by the work of the Holy Spirit, who indwells and empowers believers for godly living.

I believe the Church is the body of Christ, called to worship God, proclaim the gospel, and make disciples of all nations. The local church is a community of believers committed to biblical teaching, fellowship, prayer, and mission.

I believe in the ongoing work of sanctification in the life of the believer, producing spiritual growth and obedience to Christ.

I believe in the personal return of Jesus Christ, the resurrection of the dead, final judgment, and the eternal destiny of all people.

(c n d e)