What is Desert Hope Looking for in Its Next Pastor?

Ephesians 4:11-13 (NLT)
[11] Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. [12] Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. [13] This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.

Based on a survey recently submitted by our congregation our primary strategic focus in the next 3 to 5 years should be reaching out to new residents, families, and the broader Tucson community. Our next pastor is expected to embrace this focus.

Sound biblical preaching with practical life application that connects biblical truths directly to daily life and modern challenges is an additional skill required of our next pastor.

Pastoral care, including visiting the sick, home-bound, and counseling those in crisis is a high priority within our congregation.

We are looking for a visionary leader who will collaborate with congregational lay leaders to set goals and navigate change. We are an aging congregation. In addition to supporting our existing congregants, we need to attract and retain younger people to have a viable future.

Desert Hope has "adopted" Gridley Middle School and provides school supplies to families in need in addition to holiday meals. Another example of outreach beyond our congregation is shelter building in Agua Prieta Mexico. Our next pastor is NOT expected to lead these activities, but need be aware of and support community outreach in the name of Christ by our church family.

Our congregation supports and/or encourages participation in a wide range of city-wide activities that foster unity within the Body of Christ in Tucson. Examples include:

1. J17 Ministries (J17 Ministries)
2. Prayer summits for pastors and laity (Prayer Summits — J17 Ministries | Uniting the Body of Christ for a Divided World)
3. Serve our City (Serve Our City – Pantano Christian Church)
4. Church partnerships such as Sabino Road Baptist for VBS
5. Romans 12 Ministries (Ministry & Pastoral Services Tucson | Romans 12 Ministries)
6. Alpha (Alpha Course | Explore Life, Faith & Meaning | Alpha USA)

7. John 17 Weekends (John 17 Weekends — J17 Ministries | Uniting the Body of Christ for a Divided World)

Our next pastor need be aware of these activities and encourage participation in Christ-centered activities outside the silo of our individual congregation.