



By Carolyn Lee

The Imperial Republican

Robby Clay and his family are getting to know Imperial, as he settles into his new job as pastor of Imperial Bible Church.

Robert Clay, who prefers Robby or Rob, began his new duties Monday. He most recently was assistant pastor and youth minister at Omaha Bible Church.

Asked what led him to Imperial after being at a big church in a big city, Clay said it was his desire to preach. "To be in a more official capacity to preach."

The elders at Omaha Bible Church supported him in his search across the country. Through an FFA friend, Clay learned about the opening at Imperial Bible Church, and "It seemed to be a good fit."

The 41-year old is originally from Duncanville, Texas, a suburb of Dallas.

He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in communications and a minor in Spanish from the University of Texas in Arlington in 2002, followed by a Masters degree in Christian education from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth in 2005.

Clay interned at First Baptist Cedar Hill Church in Cedar Hill, Texas while in college, and was then a pastor at Hillcrest Baptist in Cedar Hill, moving to Omaha in 2007.

While in Omaha he filled in at area churches for pastors on vacation or absent due to illness.

Clay said he was led to ministry because of "God opening my eyes to the hope that is in Jesus" and making that hope known to people.

As pastor at Imperial Bible Church, his goal is "To help people understand the Gospel better, and they might grow into Christ-likeness and become disciples as well and share the good news."

Clay and wife Amanda have four children. He said spending time with his family is very important to him, and to "Explore life with them. I want them to explore the world and life and people" and all the things God has made.

He also enjoys chess, running and reading.