

**40 DAYS OF PRAYER**  
**Pastoral Search Prayer Initiative**

Knowing that the most underutilized source of spiritual power in ministry is the intercession for Christian leaders, the Board would like to call the church to pray and fast for each of the following items each day of the month during this transition. Continue rotating through the list until our new pastor is identified.

- 1. FAMILY DURING TRANSITION:** Pray for our future pastor's family during the leadership transition that they would experience a smooth changeover, build new friendships, and discover their place of ministry. Especially pray for their children (if applicable) as their lives are uprooted, that they can feel connected and settled quickly.
- 2. STRENGTH FOR TRANSITION:** Pray for our future pastor and family to have strength to endure the changes of transition (relocation, selling/buying a home, moving, packing, and unpacking).
- 3. UNITY:** Pray for our church to be united during the pastoral transition.
- 4. TRANSITIONAL LEADERSHIP:** Pray for our board, staff, interim pastor, and guest speakers during this transition.
- 5. CHARACTER:** Pray for all those involved on both sides of the transition process to have integrity, honesty, and trust in God.
- 6. COURAGE:** Pray for our Board/Search Team to have the courage to make decisions, take unfavorable positions if necessary, uphold standards, and to act decisively without fear.
- 7. WISDOM:** Pray for our Board/Search Team and future pastor to have wisdom to ask the right questions and discern between better and best.
- 8. AFFECTED MINISTERS:** Pray for the staff ministers and their families on both sides of this transition. Pray that God would give them faith, trust, rest, and the ability to bless our church in this transition.
- 9. AGREEMENT:** Pray the Board/Search Team would be in agreement regarding the background and experience needed by the next pastor.
- 10. SENSITIVITY TO NEEDS:** Pray that the Board/Search Team can place the church's needs before their own as they read applications, listen to sermons, and talk with candidates.
- 11. SITUATIONAL WISDOM:** Pray for our future pastor to have the ability to address critical needs and make wise decisions in a short period of time.
- 12. INSIGHT:** Pray the Board/Search Team will be led by God's Spirit and know the right questions to ask as they represent the church in the interview process.
- 13. FAITH AND OPTIMISM:** Pray for our church to have unusual faith, patience, and trust that God is leading and guiding this process.

- 14. JUDGMENT:** Pray the Board/Search Team will have clarity as they interview, eliminate, and move forward with candidates in the interview process.
- 15. HONESTY:** Pray that the Board/Search Team will represent the church accurately, truthfully, and attractively.
- 16. TEAM BUILDING:** Pray for our future pastor to have the ability to quickly find, appoint/hire, and delegate tasks to the right people.
- 17. WISDOM TO NETWORK:** Pray that those outside the church who will be assisting the Board/Search Team to be sensitive to and led by the Holy Spirit.
- 18. RESOURCES:** Pray for our people to remain faithful in their tithes, offerings, and missions giving during the pastoral transition. Also pray that God will lead and enable others to give to the transition fund so our new pastor has resources to implement vision.
- 19. SURRENDER:** Pray that those with influence in the search process subordinate their personal agendas to what is best for the church and for God's will.
- 20. STAMINA:** Pray for our Board/Search Team to have physical, mental, and emotional endurance to handle all the necessary demands of this process.
- 21. DISCERNMENT:** Pray for our Board/Search Team to have discernment in sorting through all the various styles, philosophies, and ministry models represented by pastoral candidates.
- 22. AFFECTED MINISTRY:** Pray for the church or ministry that our future pastor will be leaving to have healthy transition. Pray for them to have faith, wisdom, and divine leading in their own search. Pray for their search team to have wisdom, clarity, and unity; and for their denominational executives to be led by the Lord to assist them.
- 23. PATIENCE:** Pray for our church to have the ability to trust God and others while investing the necessary time and resources in the pastoral search.
- 24. REASONABLE EXPECTATIONS:** Pray that the Board/Search Team would not settle for too little or aim too high thereby setting unreasonable or unattainable expectations.
- 25. SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE:** Pray for our Board/Search Team and future pastor to be led by and walk in the Spirit.
- 26. GOD'S WILL:** Pray for God's will to give us the pastor that He knows we need, not necessarily what we think we want.
- 27. TEAM CHEMISTRY:** Pray for our future pastor to have deacons, staff, and employees who genuinely support their ministry values, philosophy, and initiatives.
- 28. PEACE:** Pray the candidate and their family will have clarity during their visits with the church and know whether or not this is the next step of ministry to which God is calling them.

- 29. WISDOM IN EVALUATING NEEDS:** Pray for our Board and interim pastor to have discernment in evaluating the needs and opportunities in this transition.
- 30. AFFECTED FAMILY:** Pray for the ministry staff and family members who will be affected by the departure of our new pastor to assume their new role.
- 31. FORWARD VISION:** Pray for our future pastor to receive a divine burden and direction, as well as outreach to our community and city.
- 32. DIVINE CALL:** Pray that our future pastor will sense an irresistible call and mandate from God to lead this church.
- 33. OPENNESS TO CHANGE:** Pray our leadership and congregation are not resistant to the direction our future pastor receives from the Lord. Pray for God's timing in implementing the change and for unity as we all strive to move the church forward.
- 34. ROLE CLARIFICATION:** Pray the Board/Search Team will have clarity as to the characteristics, goals, and responsibilities that should be included in the position description for the next pastor.
- 35. MULTI-GENERATIONAL:** Pray that our future pastor will be able to relate to the various generations and cultures represented in our church.
- 36. SUSTAINABILITY:** Pray that our church will not experience declines in attendance, giving, volunteerism, and morale during this pastoral transition.
- 37. PROTECTION:** Some individuals may choose to use this leadership vacuum as a time to promote their own agenda and preferences. Pray for the church to be protected from selfish ambition and that those attempting to do so will be lovingly corrected by the Holy Spirit.
- 38. SENSITIVITY:** Pray the Board/Search Team will hear God's voice with clarity and have peace concerning who should be interviewed.
- 39. OPTIMISTIC ANTICIPATION:** Pray that the future pastor, spouse, and family would feel the same peace and excitement that the Board/Search Team feels about the candidate.
- 40. MUTUAL CONFIRMATION:** Pray the entire congregation would feel a sense of peace and confirmation as the new pastor is confirmed through the vote of the official membership.

**Few things can help our church overcome obstacles, find God's will, and be led by the Spirit like prayer. Partner with us to make it a priority for our church throughout the entire transition.**

