



December 18, 2018

Dear Church Family,

Pastor Brent has been God's man for our congregation for seven (7) years, and we are grateful for his leadership, teaching, and care for us and our community. His resignation on December 2 was bittersweet: feeling the loss of leadership and the friendships with him and his family, additionally, excited for his opportunity to consistently engage his active passion for missions at the Church of the Nazarene Global Ministry Center in Lenexa, Kansas. He will also be near family. His last Sunday is January 13 with one service at 10:00 a.m.

This time of transition can be unsettling for many. With the promise that Grandview Church of the Nazarene is God's church in which He has trusted us to depend upon Him for direction, we the board have strong faith for the future—and the process to select our next senior pastor. We are inviting all pastors and staff to continue in their current roles and responsibilities, unless they individually believe that the Holy Spirit is leading them elsewhere. Each person calling Grandview Church of the Nazarene as his/her place of worship and fellowship is strongly encouraged to step forward to use his/her gifts and skills to keep our church family viable and serving in ministry.

We voted unanimously to invite New Church Specialties to guide us through these next months. With the assistance of Randy Craker, Superintendent of the Northwest District, we are bringing a Transitional Interim Pastor (TIP) to live in our valley for the purpose of helping our church family to identify its current needs and values and to assist us through assessment and coaching processes in preparation for the selection of our next pastor. This interim pastor is trained specifically for transitional ministry and has a wealth of experience in pastoral ministry. Our church used this service after Hal Perkins left and before Brent Hulett came. We recognize many benefits, as well as a few disappointments, from our last experience with New Church Specialties.

When we are ready to select the next pastor, the denominational *Manual* clearly describes the process:

- The District Superintendent will provide the board several names to fill the position.
- The board will prayerfully interview the applicants until it decides on one whom will then be nominated to the congregation.
- The congregation will have an opportunity to meet him or her.
- The congregation will make the final vote.

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Our congregation is blessed to have many talented, gifted people who could have performed some of the tasks of New Church Specialties. Our consensus is that there will be more benefit from an objective, outside source. The board plans to lead but also to be informed by the experience which this interim pastor will bring to us. Individually and corporately we want to listen and discuss with you what God is showing you from the scriptures and through the Spirit. Please communicate with us your insights, questions, and suggestions.

We ask that prayer be your first response when concerns arise. We are also talking regularly with Jesus about our church and its current situation. Deb Bowden has graciously agreed to be the Prayer Captain for our transition. In addition to your personal prayers, watch for announcements of specific times of prayer during the next months. Jesus' prayer in John 17 is that we, His people may be one so that those who don't know Him yet will hunger for what we have. "...the kingdom of God is...a matter of...righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit..." Romans 14:17

"Mercy, peace, and love be yours in abundance," (Jude 2)

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