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# CALVARY MEMORIAL

OCTOBER 27, 2018

DEAR CALVARY FAMILY,

With gratefulness to God, the Board of Elders is pleased to present Dr. Gerald Hiestand as our candidate for the Senior Pastor position at Calvary Memorial Church! This past week, the Pulpit Committee enthusiastically and unanimously voted to present Pastor Gerald as the candidate to the Elders. The Elders in turn voted unanimously to present him to the congregation for approval at the November 18 Business Meeting. We praise God for His leading throughout the process and for the unity that comes through His Spirit.

The Pulpit Committee members were elected in May and began a process of prayerful discernment. From the beginning, they were committed to a rigorous process -- proceeding with integrity and openness to God's will wherever it would lead. They created a thorough job description and a profile of our church that included feedback from the congregation through the Antioch Process. With these in mind, the Elders decided to consider Pastor Gerald first before seeking external candidates. Pastor Gerald felt God's calling on his life to become a Senior Pastor and we thought it right to honor his years of faithful service to Calvary. The Pulpit Committee reviewed Pastor Gerald's resume and references, his Ordination Paper, his detailed defense and affirmation of Calvary's Statement of Faith, and a paper detailing his ministry priorities. They met with him on several occasions to discuss these and many other matters in person, including a gathering with Pastor Gerald and his wife Jill. The Pulpit Committee and Elders are greatly encouraged by God's clear call on Pastor Gerald's life and his particular affection and passion for ministry

at Calvary. He has been transparent and his vision and passions strongly resonate with us. His love of the worldwide church, his commitment to the skillful preaching of God's Word, his prioritization of the Great Commission, his effective leadership and counseling skill, the evident Lordship of Jesus in his life and his humble and prayerful personal life of integrity and faith are all evident. The Spirit of God has knit us together over time despite each of us starting in very different places. Our prayers for the Spirit's grace and leading have been answered.

We will be making this announcement at both worship services on Sunday, October 28 where Pastor Gerald will be preaching as our official candidate. There will also be several additional opportunities for you to participate in the coming weeks. The Elders and members of the Pulpit Committee will be available to discuss either the proposed 2019 budget or the Pulpit Committee process on Sunday, November 11 at 9am & 10:45am in the Heritage Room or on Wednesday, November 14 at 6:30pm in the Dining Room.

On Sunday, November 11 at 12:15pm in the Dining Room, we strongly encourage you to join us for lunch where you will have a chance to hear from both the Pulpit Committee and from Pastor Gerald. This will be an exciting time where Pastor Gerald will share how God has been working in his life and his vision for Calvary. There will be appetizers available or you can feel free to bring your own lunch.

Finally, on Sunday, November 18 at 4pm, we'll be gathering in the sanctuary for our Fall Business Meeting. We will be selecting Elder and Nominating Committee members for 2019, reviewing and approving the 2019 budget, and voting to approve Pastor Gerald as our next Senior Pastor. We encourage all members of Calvary to attend. As always, regular attendees are also welcome, but voting is reserved for members.

On behalf of both the Elders and the Pulpit Committee, we thank you for entrusting us with this important task. We are so thankful for God's leading, for your faithful prayers throughout the process, and we are excited for our future as a church! Please join us in praying for continued unity. If you have questions, feel free to talk with any of us or contact us at [elders@calvarymemorial.com](mailto:elders@calvarymemorial.com) or [pulpitcommittee@calvarymemorial.com](mailto:pulpitcommittee@calvarymemorial.com).

BLESSINGS,

CHRIS JAHNS ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF ELDERS

**CALVARY MEMORIAL CHURCH**

708.386.3900

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