

Charles Stone Succession Plan announcement #1

As you are aware, on October 16, Pastor Charles announced to the church that he and Sherryl were retiring from pastoral ministry at the end of next March and then, moving back to Mississippi. And while Charles and the board began "high level" planning in 2019 for this eventuality, the time has now come for us to move forward with the search for our next lead pastor.

As a board, we are committed to keeping you informed of the progress we are making and the process we are following to secure our next lead pastor. And so, we are taking this opportunity to provide you with an update.

On October 1, the board held a weekend retreat to pray for God's wisdom and direction in this process.

- During this retreat and subsequent meetings, the board emerged unified in the belief that West Park's future direction is to build upon its already vibrant identity as a multi-cultural, multi-generational church while staying committed to sound biblical doctrine.
- Complete buy-in to this vision will be a required attribute of our next lead pastor.
- We are in the process of completing interviews with our current pastors and staff with a view to knowing their hearts, future ministry goals, and keeping them informed.
- We are also in the process of meeting with different outside consultants one of whom we are likely to engage to assist us with the finalization of job descriptions along with the solicitation and screening of candidates.

We will continue to provide you with updates throughout this process and ask that you continue to hold us in prayer as we move forward with this important work.