

MY INTENTION TO TRANSITION OUT OF BEING LEAD / SENIOR OF CALVARY CHAPEL IN EASTERN CONNECTICUT

The By-Laws and Constitution of Calvary Chapel in Eastern Connecticut task the Pastor with the following duties. Our personnel Manual adds additional related tasks to the description. I have tried, as best I could for nearly 40 years, to fulfill those duties expected of me. I no longer have the desire, the passion, or drive to make these happen much longer. My hope and intention with the help of the Body of Believers at Calvary Chapel is to have finish my role as lead / senior pastor well. With your help and prayers, I believe we will. We're in this together.

THESE DUTIES INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

“The president (Pastor) shall have general supervision, direction and control of the business and affairs of the corporation. He shall preside at all meetings of the members, directors, elders and deacons and shall have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Board of Directors.

The pastor shall be the president of the Corporation, its Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Elders. He shall oversee the business of the church daily and give leadership to the associate and assistant pastors, the elders, the general church body and its ministries. The pastor shall have general supervision of the entire church and charge of all services, gatherings and meetings.”

It is time for us to find somebody else to fulfill these duties. It's time for the leadership of the church to be passed to the next generation and to set the stage for the next 40 years. I have contended for many years, that although God has given me some spiritual gifts, that I am not the best person to fulfil those above duties and that someone with administrative and leadership heavy gifts could lead this fellowship into new heights. I need to move to a position where I have no administrative, executive, or formal leadership responsibilities in a church. It's a privilege and honor to hand over the history and resources to another team!

We planted Calvary Chapel from our living room, this is our church family, and we intend at least for the next several years to remain active members of Calvary Chapel, which of course brings some considerations. I would like to have an outreach / missionary role / position from Calvary Chapel but not in a way that gives any direction, leadership, focus, vision, advice, or oversight.

For the past few years, I have been active with at least two major organizations that are planting churches and coaching church planters regionally and internationally. My intention is to drill down deeper in these. My original call was to return to the region and

tell my friends about Jesus. Finishing well for me means continuing to make His Name known in this local area and region of the country, but not as a senior pastor.

I also have been heavily involved in starting two Bible Schools, one internationally and one regionally. My hope is to continue investing in these. I've been involved and desire to continue to be involved in the multiplication of ministers and ministries. All the old guys do that. They start schools, write memoirs, coach, consult. Bible teaching will always be a passion, and I have no doubt there will be lots of opportunities for me to do that! But my days of direct hands one day to day ministry are coming to a close. People often use titles like Pastor Emeritus, Founding Pastor, Pastor at Large to describe how we might serve, stay as members, and stay out of the way. We'll see what the Lord has in mind.

Our staff has been committed over the last 18 months to organizing and structuring something that is functioning, functioning smoothly, reproducing, where people are happy to serve, and where people are eager to bring friends to hear the Good News. As we work together to define future leadership of a multi-site church that continues to expand and plant, we'll continue the process of making things better together (by spreading the process of doing so out wider as we do this as a team.

How is all this going to work? Who will be leading us? What will our future team look like? We're trying to figure that out and we need you to join us in prayer, creativity, and involvement. We've started meeting with our leaders, staff, and board to figure it all out and move us forward. We'll be talking, meeting, praying, designing, looking, and we'll find out that what was supposed to happen will happen. God is in the details and timelines, and we're in this together! Ultimately any new pastor requires an affirming vote of the congregation. We'll try and find the right leadership person, mix, or team to present to you!

Our story and history have been effective in our place in the spectrum of expanding the Kingdom of God. We've seen over 1,000 conversions, twenty-five Christian workers sent, built houses, planted churches, responded to disasters, given away hundreds of thousands of dollars. My Dad used to say, "Better Days Are Coming!" I agree!

Thanks for being part of this wild ride now, sticking around, and being involved in our future. I honestly believe we are going to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living and we're going to be pleasantly surprised with what He does and how he does it! Hang on to your seat!

Joyfully Serving Jesus,

joe paskewich

