

November 14 ,2024

Hello Lakeway Church,

I'm overjoyed and deeply humbled at your approval to serve you as your next lead pastor. I immediately felt excitement and responsibility when receiving the news of the church-wide vote on Sunday. I am excited because, through this process, Shelly and I have fallen in love with Lakeway Church and the surrounding community. And we feel a deep sense of responsibility because serving Jesus' church in any capacity requires an abiding walk with Him and a sacrificial love for His people.

Over the past few months, the interview process has been nothing less than a gracious work of our Heavenly Father. Pastor Larry has, and continues, to champion a love for the Lakeway Church while becoming a pastor to me through this season. Your Elders have modeled relationship first, kindness, gentleness, and all the fruit of the Spirit while being incredibly diligent with their attention to detail. Under Pastor Luke's leadership, the staff has exceeded expectations by welcoming and supporting me these last few weeks. What a team!

The foundation of all of this has been your prayers. So many of you have shared how you've been praying the whole time. Your prayers for your Elders - that God would grant them abundant wisdom and discernment. You've been praying for the new lead pastor (even before knowing who it will be) that the Lord would prepare my heart to sense the call and shepherd His church well. You've saturated this process in prayer, and we've all felt it the whole way through. I praise God for you all. Please continue to pray for Shelly and me as we work on selling our house here in Houston and continue our search for our new home in the Lakeway area.

I look forward to starting in mid-December. I commit to you to continue walking with Jesus as His disciple, daily communing with the Holy Spirit, studying and meditating on Scripture, and walking in obedience to our Lord. I will invest heavily in relationships with our Elders and staff. I will learn everything I possibly can from Pastor Larry while he's still in the office. And I'm looking forward to hearing your stories - how the Lord is working in your life and how I can help you pursue a life surrendered to Jesus.

In closing, I'll share a quote I once heard that has been a source of motivation - 'God doesn't have a mission for His church. He has a church for His mission.' Let's go!

Much love,
Scott Rodgers