



Transitional Pastor Overview



Sid Woodruff

The Steering Team has been searching for a transitional interim pastor to provide effective leadership from the pulpit and help guide our church through specific steps toward a healthy beginning as we search for and welcome a new senior pastor. The Steering Team is ready to present a recommendation of a transitional process led by Pastor Sid Woodruff.

A Special Called Business Meeting has been scheduled for this Wednesday, Oct. 7, at 7 p.m. in the Worship Center. There will be a presentation by the Steering Team and your Lead Pastors of the proposed transitional process recommendation

and an opportunity for any questions to be answered about the process or Pastor Woodruff. This handout is designed to inform you about the transitional process, the role of a transitional pastor, and Pastor Woodruff's qualifications as a leader. Please review the following material and make every effort to be a part of this important night in the life of our church.

Transitional Process

Phase One (approximately 4 – 6 weeks) – Calling of a Transitional Pastor who gets acquainted with congregation, staff, and community. The Transitional Pastor will meet with the church staff and Steering Team to identify church needs and review processes, policies, by-laws, and programs. He will work with the Steering Team to recommend to the church a Transition Team made up of a cross section of the church.

Phase Two (approximately two months) – The Transition Team will begin meeting regularly to review church mission statement and value statements. This period will also include some congregational surveys which will be used to identify the real and perceived strengths, weaknesses, and needs of our church. The Pastor Search Team will be elected during this period.

Phase Three – This period covers the pastor search process. The Transitional Pastor will train and assist the Pastor Search Team as a resource person (the Transitional Pastor will not participate in the actual search). Information gathered through church surveys in Phase Two will be extremely helpful to the Pastor Search Team and any prospective pastoral candidates.

Phase Four – This phase is the calling of a new Senior Pastor. – *continued*

Transitional Process, *continued*

Phase Four (continued) – Prior to and immediately following the call of a new Senior Pastor, the Transitional Pastor will help him get acquainted with our church family and community. Following the installation of the new Senior Pastor, the Transitional Pastor's job will be complete.

Since the calling of a new Senior Pastor must be in accordance with God's timing, it is impossible to predict how long a pastor search will take. Throughout the transition process, the Transition Team and Pastor Search Team will bring reports and make presentations to the church.

Role of a Transitional Pastor

- A Transitional Interim Pastor is a temporary shepherd who is trained to lead a church through specific steps toward a healthy beginning for the arrival of the new Senior Pastor.
- His primary responsibility is to preach during the worship services and to lead the transitional process.
- He is not a candidate to become the next Senior Pastor.
- He is a seasoned minister who has a wealth of experience, training, and skills with which he can move a church forward during the interim period.
- He provides pastoral leadership to the church during the interim period.
- He helps the church clarify her purpose and vision.
- He provides training and guidance to the church-elected Transition Team.
- He works with the Transition Team in helping the church deal with matters that affect future health and progress.
- He provides training and guidance to the Pastor Search Team.
- He readies the congregation to accept the new Senior Pastor.

“Mission Statement: To know Christ and make Him known at home, across the street, and around the world.”

– Sid Woodruff

Pastor Sid Woodruff, a native of Texas, has spent the last 11 years in the Nashville area as Men's Ministry and Deacon Ministry Specialist for LifeWay Christian Resources. He is also a sought-after speaker for church leadership training conferences and retreats. During the past 5 ½ years, Sid has led four churches as their transitional pastor. Prior to coming to Nashville, Sid served as the Senior Pastor of West Conroe Baptist Church in Conroe, Texas. He started this church with 56 members and added 2,200 members over a 13-year period, one-third joining by baptism.

He is a graduate of Baylor University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary where he received his Masters of Divinity and Doctorate of Ministry. Pastor Sid and his wife Julie have been married for 25 years and have two children, Jordan and Lauren. He and his family live in Hendersonville.

Special Called Business Meeting

This Wed., Oct. 7, at 7 p.m.
in the Worship Center.