



Dear Faith Family,

What a joy and privilege it has been to walk together with you for well over nine years!

We have seen the Lord do some great things during that time. Together we have watched the building and the paying off of a beautiful new worship center. We have seen many people come to faith in Christ. We have seen many others find a church home here. We have seen the birth of new ministries and missions partnerships. We have seen the Lord build a great staff team. We have walked together through several books of the Bible.

We have also walked together as pastor and people through the joys and pains of life. You were with me when my beloved father went to be with Jesus. I was with you during the passing of many loved ones. Many of you can remember when Cassidy was born into our family, and you have watched Caleb, Courtney, and Cassidy grow. We celebrated with many of you when new children came into your homes. We have “done life together,” and you have been a precious church family.

Through the years several pastor search committees have contacted me about coming to their church. These were not opportunities that I sought. They just came my way. But Melissa and I were determined that we would not accept any such opportunity unless we felt that God was truly leading.

But that time has now come. I have accepted a call to become Senior Pastor of Peachtree Corners Baptist Church in the Atlanta area.

Although we are absolutely certain of God’s call in this, it has certainly not been easy. As we have prayed and thought about this over the last few months, we have felt like we were on an “emotional rollercoaster.” After all, we love our church family here, our biological families are here, and we have friendships that we cherish.

We are comforted by the fact that those friendships will be for a lifetime. We are also comforted by God’s sovereignty and love for His church. He will give you a great new pastor who will lead the church to greater things. Believe Him for that. Continue to support your wonderful staff team. Rally together and make the transition a season of strengthening the church and laying the ground for that next pastor.

I would have preferred to wait and share this news with you on Sunday, but the way that information travels in our culture, I felt that I should communicate it to you before then, because I wanted you to receive it straight from me, and not through “the grapevine.” If you have already heard it that way, I am sorry. I would have much preferred to tell you myself.

We ask you to pray for our family, and we will be praying for you. Let’s make these next few weeks a sweet time of fellowship. I will see you on Sunday.

In Christ’s love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Zhurba".