



To: Middletown Church of the Nazarene Congregation
From: David G. Roland, District Superintendent

November 14, 2018

Dear Friends,

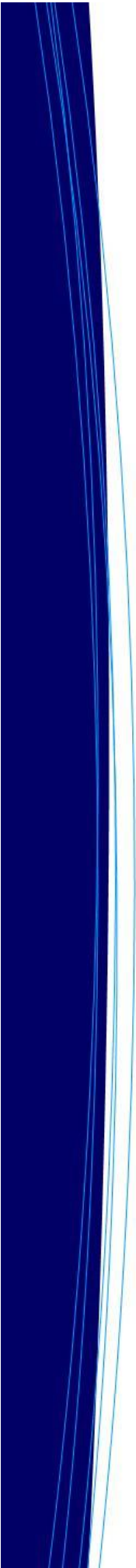
Since the day Pastor Phil Rogers announced his retirement, I have been praying for Middletown that together we would find God's leader to take the church forward. God was faithful to bring the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage behind the great leader Moses. After 40 years of wondering in the wilderness, they were finally ready to cross over to the Promised Land. With a new generation, God appointed Joshua to be the new leader to take the people of Israel into battle to take the land He had promised.

I believe that with the strong leadership of Pastor Phil Rogers, God has prepared this church to take on the next phase of ministry. Now we begin that process of preparing to find a new leader and to follow them into God's great future.

The congregation has been asked to complete a questionnaire so that we will have strong input from all attenders and members of the church at the very beginning of this process. I hope to receive these by December 1st and will then meet with the board to study them. We will very carefully evaluate every response and give your input serious consideration.

Let explain the process which we will follow. First, the board will determine how long of an interim there will be between pastors. In that time, we will compile resumes of various qualified persons and conduct informal interviews. Eventually the board will narrow the names down to one name which they will bring before you as the candidate that they are recommending to become the next pastor. There will be a time of meeting and getting to know this person before the congregation is asked to vote.

The vote will come after there have been announcements from the pulpit for at least two previous regular services. We will vote on a Sunday morning inviting those who are members of the Middletown Church of the Nazarene who are fifteen years of age or older to cast a yes or no vote. Wouldn't it be great if we could vote unanimously in favor of this candidate? The Manual of the Church of the Nazarene requires a two third majority vote in favor of the nominee for them to be elected to come as pastor. Robert's Rules of Order and the Manual of the Church of the Nazarene require that any person voting must be present to vote.



I look forward to an enriching and productive future with the Middletown Family and their new pastor/leader. This is an important and exciting time in the history of this congregation. Your prayers and faithfulness are part of the process. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact one of the board members or me.

In the meantime, enjoy loving on Pastors Phil and Sherry. They are an incredible team and leave big shoes to be filled. I am praying for you that you will always have that special place in your heart for them and that God will create new room for you to love and fully support your next pastor.

Respectfully,

David G. Roland

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