

March 6, 2023

Dear Congregation,

If you did not already hear, this past Sunday Pastor Ray announced that he will be resigning as pastor of McCoy effective August 27<sup>th</sup>. I know that many of you, like myself, are experiencing a variety of questions, thoughts, and emotions. You may be feeling shocked, surprised, blindsided, or saddened. Know that we get it. I want to share a quote from the late Fred Rogers of Mr. Rogers fame. "Often when you think you're at the end of something, you're at the beginning of something else." – Fred Rogers

That is exactly where we are at this moment; Yes, Ray & Nancy's tremendous and incredibly fruitful time of ministry with us is winding down, but we're at the beginning of something else. Ray, Christopher, and the deacons have an exciting plan to share with you that we believe will help to address your questions, thoughts, emotions, and concerns. Please know that we love each of you and care deeply about the future ministry of McCoy as a church. What I ask is that you relax, be patient, and trust your leadership to share our vision.

In a desire to share our vision, the board of deacons has unanimously approved the following steps:

**March 12** – During the Sunday school hour Pastor Ray and Christopher will share their thoughts and a recommendation for moving forward.

**March 19** – During the Sunday school hour Steve & Becky Swope will share on the topic of, "What does transition look and feel like." They are going to help us unpack some of those emotions I mentioned earlier.

**March 26** – Question and answer time during Sunday school hour.

If anyone is unable to attend any of these sessions or wants to listen again, the sessions will also be live streamed, and a link will be made available. We also greatly appreciate all who serve during the Sunday school hour and cannot attend these sessions. Plans are to serve lunch to the entire family of those whose responsibilities prevent them from attending during the Sunday school hour. At that time, the presenters will share the same information covered during the Sunday school hour.

This letter has also been sent to you via e-mail. The same information will be posted on the church website, Facebook, and the bulletin board. Our intention is to be transparent and keep you well informed.

Again, I ask that you be patient and know that it is the desire of the pastors & deacons to share our vision for the future of McCoy clearly and openly. In the meantime, pray, pray, pray for God's continued hand of direction during this time of transition.

In Christ,

Mark Anderson  
Board of Deacons, Chairman