

Hello friends...this is a post to share with you some changes for myself and for Westside Christian Church. Beginning this weekend (July 1-2), Nathan Cherry will assume the position of Senior Pastor at Westside Church and I will be stepping into a part-time, supportive ministry role at the church. By the way, so that there is no misunderstanding or wild rumors about this transition, it was my decision to step back at this time because (1) the time is right for where we are as a church, and (2) where I (and Cheryl) am/are in life. So please know that this is all good and those of us here are all committed to the success of this transition of leadership.

This transition was announced to our church family in January and we have been working toward this over the last six months as church leaders, staff, and members. We all believe that this is the right moment for this transition and we are excited to see what God has in store for us under Nathan's leadership and his fresh vision and new energy. Nathan has been on staff with me at Westside for 11 years and is familiar with all the people, as well as, our ministry and purpose and because of that, I am confident he will prove to be a blessing to our church and our future as the Lord directs.

Tom Hartung will transition from his current role as part-time Worship Director to full-time Associate Pastor, continuing to oversee the worship ministry as well as the tech-arts, outreach and ministry areas. Sierra Adams will continue as our Student Ministries Director on a part-time basis. It is a solid pastoral ministry team that will carry Westside on into the future.

I want to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone at Westside for their support and on-going confidence in me over the years and to all of you - friends, family, acquaintances and colleagues in the ministry - for your friendship, love and encouragement through the past 12+ years of Westside. After almost 27 years of full-time pastoral ministry, it is the right time to "hand off the baton" to a new generation of leadership and let them have their turn at the "helm" with God's guidance and power to depend upon.

I am not "disappearing"...I am still going to be at WCC, but not as the senior pastor, so you will still be able to "find" me. I ask that you pray for Westside as we transition, that it all go smoothly and for Nathan and the staff that they will humbly seek God's direction, leading and be faithful to proclaim the Word of God with boldness and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Pray for Cheryl and I as we reconfigure our opportunities to have some "us" time as well.

Thanks to all of you again - you have walked with me through the years and been part of God's process to shape me and bring me many wonderful memories and friends....and this is another transition.... another new phase in my life and I am looking forward to what that entails... May God's richest blessings be yours in Christ Jesus, our Lord!!!

Frank