

Fall 2020 Voters' Meeting

Senior Pastor Report

Introduction

Just over a year ago, we publicly acknowledged that the Lord has brought us to do His work and follow His will together. We pledged to walk together in order that the Gospel is shared and His Word is taught. This commitment is lived out each and every day through the ministry of Grace Lutheran Church and Christian School.

Summary

The first few months were spent simply learning and listening. Countless conversations with staff, leaders, members, and friends proved beneficial in accessing where we were and what needed attention. I will always be thankful for the love and support, but especially the open communication in those opening months.

Of course, the major difference is dealing with all the ramifications of COVID-19. Prior to COVID-19, we were already working through staff changes and the necessary budgetary changes for the current fiscal year of 2020-2021.

Our family maintains a deep desire to get to know you all better. We are hopeful that we will have that opportunity soon. We look forward to the close bond that the Lord will form between us for His purposes.

Upcoming

I pray often, asking how the Lord is leading His Church so we might respond faithfully. We must remember that nothing is a surprise to our Lord. He is never caught off guard. In fact, He controls all creation for the purpose of the redemption of all people in Christ. We can be confident that we can not only continue ministry but have that ministry thrive in any environment.

Grace needs to decide on how we are to function as a ministry. A set structure (governance) would help us to follow the Lord's leading. Any structure should aid the mission. It is not the other way around. As the Lord leads us, we must fit/mold/change any structure to serve the mission.

The Lord has provided us with an array of talents, skills, and opportunities with which to serve Him and others. We must seek to unify the underlying aims so we move together in the same direction. To do this, we commit to these aims and deal with all that would keep us from moving together. This will take time, but will aid ministry long into the future.

Conclusion

I am thankful for the opportunity to serve Grace and the Escondido community as Senior Pastor. I ask for your continued support and prayers for my family. I urge you to speak with me for any questions and suggestions, or simply wanting to know me better. And please let me know whether I can serve you in any way. The Lord will remain faithful to us!

In Christ,

Pastor Aaron.