

CHURCH AT THE CROSS

PRAYER GUIDE FOR SENIOR PASTOR SEARCH

“Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.” – Jeremiah 33:31

Dear Church Family,

As a church we will be devoting much time to prayer during this time of transition and the search process for our future Senior Pastor that God has already chosen for us. We must pray fervently for the Lord to direct us to him and him to us.

There are many ways we can pray throughout this transition period as we search for our future Senior Pastor. Listed below are some specific categories including prayer points in which to pray. As you are prompted by the Holy Spirit, add your own requests as well.

Pray for our church.

A season without a Senior Pastor is one of the most important seasons in the life of a church.

- Pray that every member of our church would remain faithful in attendance and faithful in giving financially to the work and ministry of CATC.
- Pray that our church would be patient and wait on the Lord’s timing, settling for nothing less than His perfect will for us.
- Pray for God to cause this transition to be a time of deep cleansing, spiritual awakening, and revival in our church.
- Pray that we would continue to serve and be productive members, recognizing that the church is still the church—even without a Senior Pastor.
- Pray for an overwhelming sense of love and unity among all our members at CATC.
- Pray for evangelistic faithfulness, recognizing that the Great Commission still applies—even without a Senior Pastor.

- Pray for godly wisdom and discernment for our pastoral staff and leadership during this time of transition.

Pray for our future Senior Pastor.

While we may not know the identity of our next Senior Pastor, God does. And you can rest assured that the Lord can respond to any prayers uttered on behalf of God's man for our church.

- Pray that God will give him spiritual discernment and awareness to recognize and follow God's call to leave his current ministry.
- Pray that God will give him a deep love for our church and community.
- Pray that the Lord will give him a strong desire to teach and preach the whole counsel of God with boldness and to fulfill the other biblical roles of a shepherd.
- Pray that the stresses of moving, meeting new people, maintaining relationships, etc., would not interfere with his need to continually develop his relationship with God.
- Pray that our future Senior Pastor will have a clear vision for how to minister to the people of CATC and the surrounding community.
- Pray that our future Senior Pastor would be able to work effectively with the other church staff and deacons that are presently serving at CATC.
- Pray that our future Senior Pastor will not allow the demands of ministry to cause him to neglect his family.

Pray for our future Senior Pastor's family.

Whenever we call our next Senior Pastor, there's a good probability he won't join our church alone. He'll be accompanied by his wife and any children that still may be living at home. And they need our prayers just as much as he does.

- Pray that God would give our future Senior Pastor's family peace knowing they are in God's will.
- Pray that our future Senior Pastor and his family will maintain good health and have their physical needs met, such as housing, schooling, etc., that must be settled upon moving to a new area.
- Pray that our future Senior Pastor and his family will experience God's love, joy, and peace throughout their preparations to move and their transition to CATC.

- Pray that our next Senior Pastor's family will adjust to the community and our church and will develop new friendships quickly.
- Pray that the transition period for our next Senior Pastor and family will be timely and free from difficulty and stress.
- Pray that our future Senior Pastor's wife will not be subjected to unrealistic expectations.
- Pray that God's presence will always go before and after our future Senior Pastor and his family wherever they are.

Pray for our Senior Pastor Search Committee.

The Senior Pastor Search Committee will be entrusted with the weighty responsibility to identify the man that God is calling to be our church's next Senior Pastor. This is not an easy job.

- Pray for deep spiritual cleansing and fullness of the Holy Spirit in each committee member.
- Pray for God's clear direction in how resumes are examined, and interviews conducted. Ask God to bring the right person to the attention of the Search Committee.
- Pray for the Search Committee to have God's wisdom in all the questions and information they share with the prospective Senior Pastor. Spirit-led thoroughness is essential.
- Pray for the Search Committee to have no timetable but God's. They must be determined to find God's perfect will in God's perfect time.
- Pray for a powerful hedge of protection around the Search Committee and their families.
- Pray for God's guidance in how the future Senior Pastor is presented to our church. Pray that there would be no division among the Search Committee or our church family—only unity.
- Pray that the Search Committee will seek God's will for our church above their own desires.