



This is the first of what will, hopefully be regular communications with you during the time that I, Pastor Dave Holdren, will be serving as your Interim Pastor. The intention is to keep you aware of things about our church that involve more than just the schedule of activities, but could include some of that too!

What is an Interim Pastor and what is the arrangement?

Basically, an Interim Pastor is the person who gives pastoral leadership to a congregation after the previous pastor has departed, and until “Pastor Next” is approved by a vote of our membership.

Technically, the normal rule is that the Interim Pastor may NOT become your next permanent pastor. The Interim may be hired part-time or full-time. Normally, the Interim is a fairly experienced person with a solid background in church leadership. I will explain both of these things more in a minute.

What is your job description and how long are we saddled with you?

Well, I can think of a better way to word that one question, but... the basic responsibilities of the interim are to preach/teach, give oversight to the internal and public operations of the church. It may include limited visitation and counseling, but majors on teaching, consulting, leading and management. From an emotional standpoint, I am like a “shock-absorber.” I can help cushion the blow after a long-term, well-loved Pastoral Couple such as Denver and Marilyn, have retired so that the next person will be less a victim of the “sacrificial lamb” syndrome.

The specific arrangements are that I will be on site at least 20 hours during the week. Most weeks that is two 10-12 hour days in a row, usually Tuesdays and Wednesdays. I will be present for the Sunday morning worship services and take care of all hospital visitation that is in Columbus,

where we live. Many of the extra meetings I share in will happen on Tuesday evenings and sometimes on Sunday after the second service.

My wife, Marlene, will be with me on weekends. We will likely be here for several months and possibly until next spring or summer, when we should have our next leader.

I feel confident that our working together is a God-thing. My wife, Marlene and I began our pastoral ministry here at Kenney Memorial (now CCWC) in 1971 and left in 1982. This time together is a way to “Pay it Backwards.”

How are we doing with the Pastoral Search?

It is in “Quiet Mode” as we prepare for another major search. Our church board is soon going to review the process and may make some adjustments, before another strong launch after all of the holidays. It is very difficult finding quality leaders who are inclined to move at this time of year, with kids in school and ministry commitments being made where they are.

This Fall, we will quietly begin to scout around and see where the best candidates currently are and make some efforts to determine their willingness to shift locations next year. In the meantime, we are moving ahead with big plans for the Christmas season and all other programs, such as Upward. We are also working on church policies and a variety of other things that help our church run strong and smoothly. We have a great staff to help get everything done!
(over)

DID YOU KNOW?

- There are over forty security cameras monitoring our facilities?
- On Monday evenings, there are about ninety cub scouts that meet at CCWC for pack meetings?
- Christmas Eve services for this year are at 3:30 PM and 5:00 PM? Did you know Christmas Eve is on December 24th this year?
- There are thirty-four furnaces and 67,000 sq. ft. of floor space in our facilities?
- We sit on fifty-two beautiful Athens County acres.

Want to be a part of our Christmas season choir?

Jared Moser did a great job with a small choir for the service when we celebrated Pastor Denver and Marilyn. Now Pastor Dave would like to expand on that and bring some good energy to our Advent Season music and especially to our Christmas Eve services. If you have choir experience or a choir-level voice aptitude, why not sign up and add to the musical glory of the season? You will be given more instructions after signing up, but fill out a Communication Line and circle "C" on the back with proper contact information.

Campaign Update

Some time ago, we launched a three-year fundraising campaign called, "His Purpose-Our Vision." To date, you have helped us raise \$309,818 for debt retirement on our most recent facility. During that time, some of you have had to adjust your Faith Promise and many of you were not even here to get on board.

As a final six-month push to achieve the goal, we are pulling out all the stops and asking the entire, present congregation to consider your ability, willingness and faith to give above and beyond your current level and help us achieve this good goal! Talk it over, pray about it, and follow the sense of leading that you receive. Thank you!



Plan now to be a part of a terrific Christmas Eve experience!

We will have two service times, 3:30 and 5:00 PM on December 24. Why make the effort to do these services?

1. The Church is the only voice in our culture that really Christianizes Christmas.
2. It is a time to be at our best for a lot of guests.
3. It engages a wide range of talent and lets us express Truth with Excellence.
4. The Church owes this honor to Christ, our Savior and Lord!
5. You and your family will love it!

We will conclude with a Candlelight segment and the kids get a gift but the dominant point is a fresh look at the astounding story of God's visit to Earth. In the flesh. There will be two stations for family or individual pictures.