

January 14th, 2018

To: The Congregation of River Valley Community Church

It has been our joy and pleasure to serve Christ The King Assembly, now River Valley Community Church for eleven years. God has been faithful as he has journeyed so wonderfully with all of us. Over those years of ministry here we have seen and walked through many changes. God has been faithful. From the beginnings of the church with Pastor Keith and Anne Running, to the purchase of this property, to our being called to pastor in 2006 and the flood of 2013, which led to our merger with Pastor Larry Enslin and River Park church. We have been so grateful to the Lord for that journey. We all have walked by faith not by sight. Proverbs tells us that there are many plans that we have in our hearts but it is God's plans and purposes that prevail.

For the past year to eighteen months, Becky and I have sensed a very strong stirring in our hearts. As we have talked together, prayed and asked for the leading of the Holy Spirit we have come to realize the Lord's time of leading this congregation has come to a close. This decision has not come easily as we have faced much internal struggle as we have "wrestled" with the Lord and as Isaiah says: come let us reason together. Yet it is with great anticipation we look forward to the next step and phase of ministry. This is our stepping into the river as we cross over into new land. We must pursue by faith the vision, dreams and prophetic words that have been burning in our hearts for many years. We know this is the Lord's leading. We also do not fully know what all this looks like, but know by faith God is leading. Let me once again emphasize that this decision has come about through prayer, the Holy Spirit's guidance and words of confirmation from trusted brother's. We have not come to this decision lightly.

With this in mind, I have submitted to the Elders and Deacons my resignation as Lead Pastor of River Valley Community Church. Our last Sunday will be April 8th. I gracefully submit to you three action steps for you as the congregation.

- 1. Please pray and greatly encourage the Elders of who are Pastor Larry, Pastor Randy and Pastor Ken along with your Deacon Board.*
- 2. Greatly anticipate and expect greater things from God and embrace the Vision, Mission and Core Values of River Valley Community Church as you march forward into the river.*
- 3. Please pray for Becky and I as we journey into this next phase of ministry.*

We have asked the leaders of this church, and they have agreed that we could in some way be a part of River Valley. We need a covering, accountability and prayer as we journey out. Please see this as a "sending" and not a "severing". We greatly value and love this body of believers. In the days ahead, we will be more than willing to sit down with you and share our dreams and prophetic words with you so you can with greater clarity hear our hearts. Our prayer for you will always be the words of the Apostle Paul in Galatians 4:19: My dear children, for who, I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ be formed in you.

May grace, peace and strength rest upon you all and this house now and in the days to come.

In Christ's service

Pastor Mark Borrows

RVCC LEADERSHIP RESPONSE

As your leadership team of Elders and Deacons, we have had a few weeks to process Pastor Mark and Rebecca's plans. Anytime a much loved and influential leader among us announces plans to wrap up present responsibilities and answer God's call elsewhere, we immediately feel a loss. Pastor Mark and Rebecca have served all of us strongly, carefully, lovingly and joyfully throughout their entire time with Christ the King Assembly and River Valley Community Church. Their clear love for Jesus and people has us preferring them to remain with us, forever!

Upon hearing their hearts, their strong sense of hearing from the Holy Spirit to minister in different ways and different places, we share this response with you, the people of River Valley Community Church and with Pastor Mark and Rebecca. Firstly, we affirm Pastor Mark and Rebecca in all of their service and leadership among us. Their integrity in how they are finishing their time of leadership with us is a great example and is deeply appreciated! Secondly, we affirm their obedience to step out in faith into new territory, even though all of the details are not yet clear. We are excited with them as God is moving them into new adventures in serving His Kingdom. Again, they are modelling for all of us what stepping out in faith and obedience looks like. Thirdly we affirm their desire for continued connection with River Valley Community Church. Just as Pastor Mark and Rebecca desire River Valley Church to be their home church, so we desire for them to be a part of us. Fourthly, we affirm the stance of being a church family that is sending them out from among us. It will be our honor to support them with continued prayer and relationship however that unfolds.

As most of you are just now absorbing and adjusting to this new information, your leadership team has already been planning ahead, to ensure that the vision, mission, values and ensuing ministries of River Valley Community Church continue moving forward. In the days and weeks ahead, we will keep you informed and involved as to how our leadership team is making the necessary adjustments.

But in this moment, let us gather our hearts together in prayer to solicit the wisdom of heaven and the guidance of the Holy Spirit on behalf of Pastor Mark and Rebecca, and this church family as we move thoughtfully and courageously forward.