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June 30, 2019

Central Parkway Baptist Church
5281 Central Florida Parkway
Orlando, FL 32821-8761

Dear Beloved Family,

Since I became a follower of Jesus Christ more than fifty-two years ago, God has not asked my opinion even once regarding my calling or assignment. Almost ten years ago, God called me to serve Him as your pastor here at Central Parkway Baptist Church. God has called me to serve as pastor of six churches in four states over the past thirty-six years. God has now called me to serve as an Associational Mission Strategist, known to most of you as a Director of Missions. God has called me to serve jointly Mercer Baptist Association and Thomas County Baptist Association based in Quitman, Georgia, and Thomasville, Georgia, respectively.

Therefore, I am resigning as pastor of Central Parkway Baptist Church, Orlando, Florida, effective August 1, 2019.

It is important to me that you know that I did not pursue this position. God orchestrated placing my name before their Search Committee about two years ago. They began communicating with me almost one year ago. I did everything I could do to remain with you. God has evidenced overwhelmingly that this is His plan. God has asked me repeatedly to trust Him. Upon each occasion, I have said to Him, "Father, I trust You." This trust includes, dearly beloved, trusting Him with and for you, corporately and individually, just as it has from the beginning of our relationship.

God is still God! He still loves you and me. He still loves His Church. His purpose and plans for Central Parkway remain unchanged from when He originated them. He still provides out of His own character and nature for His Church and for each of us individually. He will not change!

Thank you for loving Yolonda, our family, and me as you have these ten years. Thank you for loving our Lord and being His people.

Yolonda and I covet your prayers as we make this transition. We will continue praying for you as we have throughout our journey with you. I pray for you, dearly beloved, as Paul did in Colossians 1:9-12,

We are asking that [Central Parkway] may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, so that [Central Parkway] may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him, bearing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God. May [Central Parkway] be strengthened with all power, according to

"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name." - John 15:16 (NIV)

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His glorious might, for all endurance and patience, with joy giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled [Central Parkway] to share in the saints' inheritance in the light.

and in Ephesians 3:14-18,

For this reason I kneel before the Father from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. I pray that He may grant [Central Parkway], according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power in the inner man through His Spirit, and that the Messiah may dwell in [Central Parkway's] hearts through faith. I pray that [Central Parkway], being rooted and firmly established in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the length and width, height and depth of God's love, and to know the Messiah's love that surpasses knowledge, so [Central Parkway] may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us — to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Thank you for the privilege, honor, and love you have shared and poured into me for Christ's sake. I love you all!

Because God first loved me,



Pastor Grant Hignight