

# Processing & Prayer Guide

As we begin discussing this transition, we recognize there are many emotions. We recognize transitions can be difficult because, amid excitement for the new, there can be grief as a season closes. Our God cares deeply about our emotions and our desire for Wayside is that we would honor the feelings that come while also honoring those involved in this change. We believe our God is sovereign and is also intimately aware of and in control of this transition, and our team is continuing to pray and follow His leading. As you process what you and others might feel, we invite you to use the guide below.

## MAKE ROOM FOR GRIEF

***Regardless of the change, transition always involves a loss amid hope for the new.***

- What losses are you grieving as you consider this transition?
- When have you experienced loss in the past? How did you respond? How do you tend to cope with grief?
- What might it look like to practice abiding in Jesus in the midst of the feelings you are experiencing?

## REFLECT ON THE PAST & LOOK FOR GOD'S DIRECTION FOR THE FUTURE

***The past can color the emotions we may experience in the present. Before we can move into excitement and hope for the future and the growth opportunities, we should recognize any connections our feelings have because of any difficult past transitions.***

- Reflect on what feelings arise as you consider this transition and any questions that arise.
- As you consider the transition Wayside is beginning, what hopes do you have for the future and what are you excited about?

## PRAY SPECIFICALLY & ENGAGE IN HEALTHY CONVERSATIONS

***Our elders and leadership team have been and will continue to be in prayer as we follow God's leading because we believe in the power of prayer and invite you to join us. We also recognize that any transition or change is an opportunity for Satan to divide and cripple God's people and we do not want to give Satan that opportunity here.***

- Pray for unity for the church as we process and move forward into where God is calling us. Pray for unity within the church and our leadership teams as we support this transition and that there would be an overall spirit of peace and cooperation with minimal conflicts or divisions that could arise during change.
- Pray for Wayside to have an open heart and ears to where God is leading us and that we will continue following God's leading into this next chapter and beyond.
- Pray for clarity and provision for the Poupart family as Pastor Roger and Kim are praying and looking for God to direct them to their next ministry.
- Pray for the Uptmore family as they seek to follow God's leading.
- Pray for discernment and wisdom for the search committee, church leadership, and the congregation in the calling of the next Lead Pastor.
- Avoid gossip, rumors, or speculation as these things can create division and disunity and provide an opening for Satan.