

Dear Canal Street Family,

I want to begin by thanking each of you for the opportunity and privilege of serving as your interim pastor. As I have gotten to know you, I have gained a great sense of your call to be a faithful witness to the Gospel of Christ in New Orleans. You have a great sense of fellowship and family within your church. The Mosaic Church family is so appreciative of your hospitality in opening your building for usage on Sunday nights. Within the kingdom of God, there is no competition. As we strengthen and pray for each other (as churches and individuals), I know God will bless all of us as we glorify Him.

Your session asked me to briefly share my story with you. I am originally from Alabama, and came to seminary in New Orleans in 2000. I met my wife at seminary, and we will have been married for ten years this upcoming January. I finished my Ph.D. in 2008 and was asked to join the faculty of the seminary as a professor of theology and Islamic studies. My wife completed her Ph.D. in counseling and has a Christian counseling practice here in Mid-City.

The Lord opened our hearts to multi-racial adoption and church ministry. So, back in 2006, my wife and I adopted our first daughter, Karis. Later in 2008 we adopted our second daughter, Alethia. We have a passion to see all races and socio-economic classes united through Jesus Christ in Gospel-centered churches. I have pastored several churches and church plants in various settings, but the Lord has given us a firm passion for the city of New Orleans. We hope to stay here for many years to come.

At the time when your session asked me to consider becoming the interim pastor, it was also a time when my wife and I felt led to transition out of full-time teaching and return to full-time pastoral ministry. I am glad to assist Canal Street during this time of transition as we are going through our own changes in life.

My priorities during this interim pastorate for Canal Street, in coordination with the session, are the following: **1) provide leadership and vision assistance to the session, 2) fill the pulpit for preaching Bible-centered sermons, and 3) shepherd the congregation with pastoral care.** Please know that I embrace each of these tasks with the utmost care and reverence as I serve your church family. I hope to get to know each of you individually. I also hope to reach out to those who may have left the church or are on the fringes. I will be keeping regular office hours and visiting times, so please do not hesitate to call or contact me.

I truly sense great days ahead for Canal Street to be an effective witness for Christ here in New Orleans. Your love for each other and your love for the community are two cornerstones on which to build. The days will be filled with challenges, but also great rewards. May we join together under the Lordship of Christ to change New Orleans with the Gospel!

God's richest blessings,



Rev. Page Brooks
504-913-5029, pagebrooks@me.com