



Dear Church Family,

First, let me take a moment to thank all of you who took the time to brave the lines and vote over this past weekend.

Accepting a new call is often accompanied by a sense of excitement regarding a new church, a new people, and a challenge to explore the mission, vision, and values of a new congregation. In this situation, I am excited and humbled because I am accepting a call from a church I have grown to appreciate. I am accepting a call from people who are more like family and friends. I am accepting a call to serve you in leading a mission, vision, and values that I already believe in. I know that I am beyond blessed at the opportunity to serve with you as we help people take their next steps toward Christ and becoming a part of this family.

I want to take a moment to thank those who have prayed and worked through this process over the past several months.

First, I am grateful for a Pastor who has been a great mentor and leader, not only through his words, but also through his actions. His desire to follow God's leading in his life is matched only by his submission to God to live this out. This most recent change is another step of Pastor Fuller's journey toward Christ and His call on Pastor's life. Thank you Pastor for living what you preach among us; and thank you for your support and guidance through deep valleys, high mountains, and through this process. I am grateful that we will continue to be able to serve together as we serve Christ at The Naz!

Secondly, I would like to thank the Church Board for continuing to be prayerful in their deliberations. When I first interviewed to come on staff here 7 years ago, I was impressed with how the people of this church prayed, and this was especially evident in the Church Board. This succession process has been no different. While there were procedures and questions that can make any process longer and more difficult, there has always been an assurance that our church board was also spending time during meetings and away from meetings praying for God's direction in this entire process.

The leadership of a pastor and church board like we have at The Naz is something that we have come to expect, but it definitely is not something that should be taken for granted. Thank you Church Board for your continued desire to seek God above everything else.

Finally, I want to thank the staff I get to work with here at The Naz. Their love and support through this process has been phenomenal. I am grateful for the past few years that we have been able to work together, and I look forward to continuing to work with such talented, God-gifted men and women who love people and are passionate about seeing those people come to Christ and grow deeper in their relationship with Him! It's also great to work with people who like to have fun together. Thanks for becoming family - even if you are like the weird uncles, aunts and cousins we don't like to talk about.

Before I close, I want to take one more moment to thank everyone who is a part of The Naz for your friendship and support. These past few years have been quite a journey for me personally, as well as professionally. Being away from biological family can often make those processes extremely difficult, but you all have been family to me, Brooke, Connor, and Liam in ways that many people never get to experience.

THIS IS WHERE I WANT TO ENLIST YOUR HELP AS WE LOOK TOWARD THE FUTURE.

I am asking you, my church family, to pray about how God would use YOU to love others and build relationships with them that help them build relationships with Christ. There are thousands within the reach of our ministries in Grove City, Canal Winchester, and the surrounding communities of central Ohio who have not experienced God's love through biological family or any other means.

I KNOW God can use you!

I KNOW God wants to use you!

I KNOW God has already used you, because he has used you in the life of my family!

I am simply asking that you would join me, Pastor Fuller, the Church Advisory Board, and the Staff and Volunteers of the Naz in praying that God would give us an even greater passion for intentionally loving people in ways that they see God's love for them and begin taking their next steps toward loving relationships with Him!

Take time right now to commit time to praying for your church leadership, but even more importantly, pray about how God wants to use you to help others come to know His love.

Your Brother in Christ,

Dale (and Brooke, Connor, and Liam!)