

LEAD PASTOR TRANSITION INFORMATION

After 11 years at Red Cedar Church, Pastors Heather and Jeff Semple have received direction from the Lord to resign from leadership in preparation for their next season of ministry at 12Stone Church in Georgia. Their last weekend at Red Cedar will be July 21-22, 2018.

The Semples will be deeply missed by their Red Cedar family. Yet, we fully trust that just as God has plans and purposes for them, He has plans and purposes for Red Cedar. Our church has been, and always will be, a body of believers with Jesus Christ at the head, and we will continue to passionately pursue lost people in this time of transition.

In this season our Executive Pastor, Craig Rayment, will be stepping into the role of Interim Lead Pastor alongside the leadership of our Elder Board. We have hired a search firm to help us fill the role of Lead Pastor, and are believing that God will bring us His leader in His timing. God has abundantly provided us with a great team that is equipped and excited to help Red Cedar move forward and grow in the interim.

The best ways YOU can help in this transition period are to pray—for our church body, our leaders, our staff, and the next Lead Pastor of Red Cedar—and to stay engaged through serving, giving, and inviting. We will keep the church body informed on updates regarding the search as the process moves along, and look forward to advancing on the mission of Red Cedar with you.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Who will run things during the transition?
 - We have a great team of Elders that will be very present in the spiritual oversight of the church. Craig Rayment, our Executive Pastor, will be the Interim Lead Pastor while we are searching for a permanent Lead Pastor. As Executive Pastor, Craig leads our staff and will continue to be leading behind the scenes as Interim Lead Pastor. Our teaching and creative team will lead the weekend services under his direction. As is appropriate for the Interim Lead Pastor, Craig will also take on the position of Interim Chair of the Elder Board; Brad Swan will remain Vice Chair.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (cont.)

- Are any staff going with them?
 - No, none of our staff are going with them, which gives our team great stability to move forward during the transition.
- What does Pastor Heather's resignation mean for Red Cedar?
 - We're sad to see the Semples go. Our mission of reaching lost people and leading people to full life in Jesus Christ stays the same. We believe that God has great things ahead for Red Cedar, and practically, it will mean we are entering into a period of transition in searching for our next Lead Pastor. We have no current plans to change our ministry areas.
- What does this mean for Eau Claire? Are we going to close the campus?
 - Reaching lost people in Eau Claire is part of what God has called Red Cedar to do. We are so excited about what He's doing at that campus and we do not have any plans to close the campus. We are believing that it will continue to grow and lead people to full life in Jesus Christ.
- Who will be preaching while you look for a replacement?
 - We have put together a teaching team consisting of some internal staff and some guest speakers. We believe God will continue to work powerfully through the teachings in our weekend services.
- Do you already have a Lead Pastor replacement selected?
 - No. We have hired a search firm and are doing everything we can to pray and receive the person that God has chosen to lead Red Cedar next.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (cont.)

- What will be the process for selecting our new Lead Pastor? Do I get a say in that decision?
 - The process for selecting a new Lead Pastor will look something like this:
 - We filter through resumes and have initial interviews to get down to an initial pool of 3-8 candidates.
 - This first pool will have further interviews involving the Elder Board. The Board will then narrow it down to one person, and vote to approve that person to preach in front of the church.
 - At their visit, after they preach, membership of the church will vote to invite them here into the role or not.
 - We will do our best to communicate where we're at in this process from stage. However, members will not know the names of any specific candidate until after they have been approved for a visit by the Elder Board.
- What do you need from the people of Red Cedar during this time? What can I do to help?
 - Be the church. Pray – for the church, for the staff, for the next leader that God is calling to Red Cedar. Continue to be engaged – serve, give, and invite. It's ultimately through the body that the mission is accomplished.
- Who do I go to if I have more questions?
 - You may contact any staff member or Elder Board member. They will either be able to answer your question or point you to the person that can.