

June 4, 2023

Church family,

Wow! Time surely flies. Let me begin by saying I am grateful for Pine Level Missionary Baptist Church. I am thankful for this community, which reminds me of the community I grew up in. Over the past, four and a half years, we have learned why Pine Level is considered “*The Best Little Town in North Carolina.*”

Many firsts have taken place in my life and in the life of our family at this church. This is the first church where I have served as a Senior Pastor. The first church where our family has lived in a parsonage. The first church where we have actually lived at the church. (*BTW: in case you were wondering, it's less than 50 feet from the back door of the fellowship hall, to the side door of the parsonage*). This is the first church where I have been responsible for leading a staff and leading Sunday morning worship services on a weekly basis. This is the first church where I have preached to an empty sanctuary (*not because you didn't want to come, but due to the fact that we were walking through a global pandemic*).

When you think about this church, the physical structure comes to mind. But you are the church; the individual members, those who are “*in Christ*” that belong to this body of believers. This church will always hold a special place in my heart. You have believed in us, prayed for us, encouraged us, and loved our family well! This has especially been evident in the past week and a half as our family has encountered and been walking through a difficult season. To each of you who are a part of Pine Level Missionary Baptist Church, from the bottom of my heart, I love you.

During these past four and a half years, I have grown and matured in my calling as a pastor and in my relationship with Jesus. I have also grown to have a greater love and desire to invest in the lives of people. God has allowed me to do two things here I am passionate about, preaching His Word and loving people.

I come today to let you know that God has opened another door and another ministry opportunity for me and my family - one that we DID NOT seek. When we learned of this opportunity, Heather and I began to pray. Throughout the process I have asked God to leave the door open if this was the direction we needed to take, and to close the door, if this was not the direction He was leading our family. God has confirmed that this is the direction for me as a pastor, and for us as a family, and I have peace that my assignment here is coming to a close. The timing of this is not ideal, but necessary due to commitments that have already been made.

Therefore, after much prayer and consideration, with both sadness for what we leave behind but excited for what lies ahead, I respectfully submit my resignation from Pine Level Missionary Baptist Church. It is my intention to resign my position as Pastor effective, Sunday July 2, 2023.

I would like to thank Heather, my sweetheart and partner in ministry for the love and support she continually provides as a pastor's wife. Being a pastor's wife is a tough job, and without her I could not do what I love doing. A very special thank you to our deacons who I have served alongside for their encouragement and support. Thank you to our staff. Kevin, our music director who came on staff at just the right time. Kevin, Melissa, and his family have been a blessing to this church. Kevin, I wish you the best as you continue to lead worship. Also, a special thanks to our administrative assistant, Debbie Teachey. She has a servant's heart and does so much behind the scenes, for the Lord and for this church. She is a tremendous blessing and asset.

Thank you to all of my brothers and sisters in Christ for the friendships we have built and the relationships we have established. Thank you for your encouragement, support, and prayers. You will be loved and missed. I look forward to the next few weeks and to completing the job God has called me to do here at Pine Level Missionary Baptist Church.

Serving Him,

Pastor Brad  
Heb. 12:2