



Meet Tim Beal, Designated Pastor Nominee

Reverend Dr. Tim Beal is currently Pastor of Woods Church in Severna Park, Maryland, a large Presbyterian Church between Baltimore, Maryland and Washington, D.C.

Previously he has served as

- Executive Pastor at Rancho Bernardo Presbyterian Church, Rancho Bernardo, CA
- Pastor of Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, Thousand Oaks, CA
- Organizing Pastor of Rancho San Diego Presbyterian Church, El Cajon, CA
- Pastor of New Wilmington Presbyterian Church, New Wilmington, PA
- Associate Pastor at Fairmont Presbyterian Church, Cleveland Heights, OH

Dr. Beal was ordained as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament in 1979. He earned his Bachelor's Degree at the University of Michigan, a law degree at the University of Michigan, a Master's of Divinity at McCormick Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry degree at McCormick Theological Seminary.

Dr. Beal is a superb preacher, as well as a skilled church administrator and spiritual leader. He is married to Cherie (pronounced Sheree) and they have three grown children, Joshua, Jordan and Karis, who live in the Los Angeles area.

Though the congregation was notified by letter that Tim's name could not be revealed until July 5th, Tim has notified both his congregation and the Presbytery of his candidacy here and it is now appropriate to make his identity known.

Tim will be preaching at both services on Sunday, July 5th, and a Congregational Meeting will follow at 11:00a that day. The meeting is open to all interested parties, and we encourage everyone to attend. However, it is appropriate that only members of First Presbyterian Church, Oceanside, participate in the actual vote to approve the Designated Pastor contract and the Terms of the Call to Dr. Beal.

The Pastor nominating committee (Suzanne Fischer, Kay Nelson, Noelle Patterson, Dick Robertson, Kirby Sand, Allan Stelmach and Jim Wills) unanimously recommend that Reverend Dr. Tim Beal be approved as our new Pastor.

Statement of Faith Timothy L. Beal

Before I could do anything to earn it, I was baptized and claimed as a son of God and member of the family of faith. At the age of 14, I personally claimed that identity and made a commitment to follow Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord. This conviction and commitment I renew this day before you. It is through Jesus that I know God and trust God's rule in my life.

This God is the creator of the world and the covenanter with Israel, whom Jesus called "Father." This God became human in the person of Jesus. This God is experienced today as the life-giving Holy Spirit. This triune God is creative, seeks my wellbeing, and invites me to participate in the good work of creation.

I, like every person, try to live outside the reign of God. This rejection of God's rule, which the Bible calls sin, is expressed in disobedience, apathetic indifference, and seeking to use piety as a way to manipulate God to bless my purposes. In expressing my independence from God, I wonder if I have gone so far in separating myself from God that God has given up on having a relationship with me.

The good news is that through Jesus, I can have a personal relationship with God. Jesus was God living as a human. In the reality of his birth, life, ministry, death and resurrection, I see God's character revealed. In the teachings and ministry of Jesus, I learn God's righteousness. In Christ's death, I witness the depth of God's compassionate commitment to bear any cost necessary to redeem me. In Christ's resurrection, I see the creative power of God to overcome and transform every obstacle, even death. Jesus is my savior because through him I know God and invite God's resurrection power to work in my life. As I declare Jesus as my Lord, I commit to live under his direction and to bring honor to his name.

The primary guide for living as a follower of Jesus is the Bible. Scripture is the written record of people who have authentically experienced God at work in their lives. It provides the standard for discerning faithfulness in belief and practice. The Bible also functions as God's Word because as I prayerfully read Scripture, I discover God communicating with me today.

I live out the commitment to Jesus in the context of Christ's church. The church is the covenant community which tries to live out the conviction that Jesus is Savior and Lord. In the experience of meeting and following Jesus, we find ourselves transformed and equipped to be God's ambassadors and agents to bless the world. Drawn together by the common commitment to Christ, we discover through our diversity that God is larger than our personal experience. In learning how to love and be loved, we become people who reflect God's grace. In celebrating the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, we experience and express the fundamental conviction that through Jesus we have salvation that is a personal relationship with God.

The opportunity for a relationship with this awesome God is made possible through God's gracious initiative. To live in this relationship is to faithfully express God's truth in what I do and say. In the warmth of this personal relationship with God, I commit myself to God's service, depending upon and exalting in the participation of God's transforming Spirit in my life.