

Special day today. As you can see, normally we don't have chairs up here. In just a minute, I'm going to invite members of the newly elected senior leadership team to go ahead and come to the front. But I'm just going to take just a couple minutes to talk about the senior leadership team because some of you have come to me either directly to me or to the deacons and they've passed it on. That they're wondering, hey, First off, what does the senior leadership team do? They've actually been a part of our bylaws for a while, but we haven't talked about the role of the senior leadership team much. And then the second question is how do I get to know members of the senior leadership team? And those are both really, really good questions. In fact, that's a big reason that is the main reason I. Was that myself? Yeah, that makes sense. People do need a chance to get to know them. So that's the reason we put together this Sunday. So let's

talk about what the senior leadership team does just for a minute. I'm just going to read directly from our bylaws. Our bylaws are there if anyone ever wants to take a look at them. If you're having a hard time sleeping, I recommend you just peruse the bylaws. 20 plus pages of straight up goodness man you, you're gonna love it. But here's the primary function of the senior leadership team. We really have two leadership bodies in this church. We have the SLT. We get tired of saying the whole thing, the SLT and we have the Deacon body, and they actually work together on quite a few things, but they have different functions. So let's start with the. Lt. The primary function of the Senior Leadership team is to drive strategic implementation of the mission and vision of Nall Ave. Baptist Church. That's the primary function, quoting from my bylaws of why we have a senior leadership

team. It's to drive strategic implementation of the mission. And vision of this church, A perfect example is our purpose statement slash mission statement. As a church, we are apprentices of Jesus bringing God's Kingdom to our community. That is who we are as a church. It's who we are and it's what we do. And we get that straight from Scripture. But who helped me?Craft that purpose statement the senior leadership team because that is the driving force of our mission and vision. Now the deacons, I'm going to read also from the bylaws. There is also a Deacon body, which I think everybody here is aware of. What's their primary function? It's to assist the lead pastor and the professional staff, which is other ministerial staff. In performing pastoral ministry tasks, proclaiming the gospel to believers and unbelievers, and ministering to church members and others in the community. So you'll notice in

that wording the primary function of the deacons. They do a few different things, but the primary function is service, especially pastoral care. So many of you, if you go to the, if you're in the hospital or you need someone to come visit you, a lot of times that will be one of the deacons. In fact, almost every time. And I rely heavily on the deacons and they do a wonderful job of letting me know because I can't keep track of everybody saying, hey, Seth, you need to go see this person or you need to go see this person. But the deacons are the first level of pastoral care. And that is set up that way in almost every single church. If you had one person doing that, boy, a lot of people would get overlooked and neglected because one person can only do so many things. That's why you have a body. Whereas the senior leadership team, they work primarily with the strategic implementation of the vision and mission.

Now, I'm not going to go into all of it

because I don't want you all to go to sleep. Want you to stay awake and alert, but they also work together, especially on recommend recommending nominations for the nominating committee or if you're doing like elite pastor search committee, the senior leadership team and the deacons will work together to get people on that committee, etcetera, etcetera.

OK, any other questions you can always ask me about that, send me an e-mail. You can talk to the deacons. Or I'd really encourage you to do, because here's what I'll do eventually. Just say here's the bylaws, take a look at them. You can read through it yourself. Now. Next question

is this. How is the senior leadership team chosen? Ultimately, they were chosen by a church vote. That's also in our bylaws. We put forth the nominations and the church body has to affirm them. But how do we choose the nominations? There are two big things. One is we looked for the biblical standard for leadership

and said who meets that standard? Now there's different parts of Scripture that address different standards for leadership. One of them we just heard from Sam, First Timothy 3 one through 7.

There's also Titus 1/5 through 9, and there's a couple others. As well. Now the senior leadership team, they're not an elder board and they're not the deacons, but those leadership. What's the word I'm looking for? I guess here's the standard for what leaders should do that can be

applied to just about anybody. Now let me boil it back a little bit. As a pastor, here's how I look around and say, hey, who would be a good fit for this team?

I keep in mind the scriptural standard and then I look at the church and I say, who is already faithfully serving?

And if you look and you see your people who are already faithfully serving in different capacities in the church, that's just a giant green flag that says, hey, that person is a great person to

consider for the senior leadership team.

Or maybe the head of a, of a committee,

something like that, who's faithfully

serving. And as you get to know the

members of the SLT, you're gonna find out

that all of them are faithfully serving

in the church. Now, the last thing I'm

going to say about the SLT is this, and

then I'll invite them up here. The team

is purposely diverse. Purposely diverse.

In fact, as I talked to other people

who are helping me with the nominations,

I was like, what I don't want to

see is the same people on the team

who are always on the team. We need

a purposely diverse team. And so when you

see our senior leadership team, you're

going to see age. Differences. That was

on purpose. We did our absolute best to

try to have folks representing each one

of the generations. You can't hit that

exactly, but you get as close as you can.

You're going to see gender differences.

We have three men and three women. As the

lead pastor, I need input from the men and women of the church in order to make good decisions for the church. I need their help. I can't do it by myself. And then also, you're going to see differences in tenure at the church. That is also on purpose. Some folks have been here from the beginning of time and other folks have been here just for a couple of years or a little over a year. That's important. That's a strength, and the reason it's a strength is because of this. I've said this before, and I should probably start saying it more often. At Nall Ave. Baptist Church, as we move forward into the future, God has for us the way that He is calling us to bring His Kingdom to our community, our area of responsibility that He's given us. As we do that, here's what we try to do. We honor the past, but we don't live in the past. Does that make sense?

We honor the past. So many wonderful things and have happened to this church

over the years. So many people have contributed. This church has a long and rich history in Johnson County. But woe to us, Knoll Ave. Baptist Church, to use some prophetic biblical language. Woe to us if we live in the past. Guess what happens in the future? If you live in the past, you just fade out and eventually go away. So we honor the past and we'll always honor the past, but we don't live in the past. We move forward into the future that God has for us. And a big way of doing that, probably the most important way is you if you're going to move forward into the future. What has you have to bring up new developing leaders. They are the future of the church. You have to bring up new developing leaders who have experience outside, and I'll put it this way of the null bubble and don't take that as a personal affront. Every church has a bubble, Every organization has a bubble, and it is incredibly. Valuable and

important to bring in people who are outside of that bubble because it alerts you to all the things that you wouldn't see otherwise. So we live in, excuse me, we don't live in the past. We honor the past. I don't remember what I said.

But we don't live in the past, thank goodness. I have some notes up here today. We honor the past, but we don't live in the past. And the tangible way

that we continue to move forward is bring  
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up those new developing leaders. Last  
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thing that I'll say, you will see me

church as your pastor. I will focus so hard on developing leaders. It's like one of the most important things I do around here. Churches don't run without well developed leaders, without well developed

volunteers. That is the future of the church. The church is not me. The church is ultimately Jesus Christ. But Jesus works through his people. And a big part of my job as your lead pastor is

to develop as many leaders as I possibly

can so that we have a strong healthy.

Church leaders have been doing it for a

long time and new leaders as well, and

that will continue to be a big emphasis.

That's why the whole spiritual formation

group is set, so that leaders continue to

be developed and brought up and developed

and brought up. That's the process

because we have to have that to move into

the future God has for us. OK, so that.

Said I'm going to go ahead and invite up

to senior leadership team. We have Caleb

Andrew, Andy Holder, TR Hoffman, Christie

de Mint, Claire Solso and Heidi Langford.

If you could come on up and just grab a

seat.

Yeah, Christy, if you could grab a mic

for everybody.

OK.

Ohh, it's all good. OK, so I

put together some questions and to not

catch them all to off guard. I let them

know the questions ahead of time and

we'll see how we're doing on time. But we're going to start with Christy and then we're going to skip me and just kind of pass the mic down. But let's start with this. Members of the senior leadership team. The goal here is for the church to get to know you all. So tell us. Just very briefly, a little bit about

yourself and that will just be the basics, you know, nothing like in 1982, not that. Yeah,

Christy demands. I'm married to

Ty, have three grown kids

in their 20s now 2

grandkids. Again, I've

been married 30 years and I've been at

this church for 30 years. So. And

Christy, what do you do outside of Null

beside for work? I'm at T-Mobile. I'm a

director of state income tax. So I'm a

CPA and I deal with numbers and I

have nine people that work for me.

Christie's been a huge blessing helping

us on the financial side of the church

for that. So thank you, Christy, Heidi.

Good morning. I'm Heidi Langford and I'm married to David. We have two children that are grown and married and have given us 6 grandchildren and we joined the church back in 1980. We're one of those long time people you were talking about.

We joined shortly after we were married.

So this has been. Our church family, our church home for many years. Awesome.

Thanks, Heidi. My name is Caleb Unruh and I've been attending Nall for 15 years with my wife Joe and our now five kids. They range in age from almost 15 to 8. We have 4 boys and one girl.

Outside of Null, I work for a company called RW Supply and Design. We are a flooring company and we have a missional purpose to work for the day until every child is at home and it is a big part of my life to do that. So thank you Caleb.

Hey, I'm TR Hoffman. I've been coming in all for about a year and a half now

Fuzz over a year. I've been married to my  
lovely wife Ava for the past five years  
and we have an very buy me a coffee  
sometime. I'll tell you our story. It's  
very long, very convoluted. She hated me,  
not hated. But we, we gotta  
figure it out one step at a  
time. We, we have three babies in  
heaven and I outside of null. I'm  
a mechanical engineer at Honeywell, but I  
do a lot of electrical work. Don't  
ask me how that happened. It did.

Yeah, Thanks, TR.

I'm Claire Solso and my husband  
Christopher and I've been here about  
a little over a year if  
you ever want to see M's  
down in the kids hallway guarding  
them. And we have three  
kids and an 8 year old, 5 year old and  
a 2 year old, two boys and a girl.

And.

Let's see what else? Uh, we've been  
married 17 years and.

I am an RN and I  
work currently with my father. In  
fact we help people with chronic  
pain. So lots of needles, lots  
of fun. Thanks,

Claire. Well, good morning. I'm Andy  
Holder. Benita and I joined the church in  
1989 just as we arrived from the great  
state of Texas into the middle of the  
winter of 1989. I don't know if you  
remember that there was a week in  
December that it didn't get above -5.

I wondered if we had moved to  
some sort of frozen hell, but we  
made it. We've been married for 46  
years. And we have two kids, many  
of you know them, Nathan and Daniel. And  
we have 3 grandchildren, two of whom live  
here in Kansas City and spend a great  
deal of their time at our house.

I'm retired chemistry professor from UMKC  
and I've done a number of other things,  
but that was kind of my primary. Awesome.  
Thank you, Andy. All right, we're going

to work our way. You can just hold on for a second. We'll work our way back down here. Let me ask each one of you this. So I, I talked to each one of you individually as we were looking for nominees. To the senior leadership team, my question is why? Why did you make this fateful choice to decide to join the team? What were you hoping to contribute?

And basically, yeah, why did you decide that, hey, this is a team I want to be a part of. I feel like God wants me to be here.

So I want to serve. I want to do things that help our church advance.

And I've obviously done a lot of things in my time here, but I want to be part of guiding us into the future.

Seth is right, the past is important and the past is something we can build on, but I want to look forward and help move us in that direction.

I just wanna do my part and be of service

and and if. Helping  
guide our pastor is one way that I  
can do that and I'm I'm here. So  
I'm pretty much boiled down to that.

Thank you, Claire. I figure somebody  
has to be around to tell Seth when he has  
a bad idea, so if you could do that.

You didn't tell me that when I asked you

to be on the team. No,

but I, I, I'm just excited to,

to be a part of, of this,

of this group and I think each

one of us is.

Has something different. And I, I don't  
know, I, I was a little bit taken  
aback, I think when Seth asked me because  
I haven't been around here all that long.

Not even 30 yet. This feels

weird but. Yeah,

I, I knew that he wanted my  
perspective. So I, I would like to  
give that so that all the people,  
all the newer people that are coming

into our church can have a voice.

Thanks to your. I  
think community and responsibility go  
hand in hand. I'm very blessed to be part  
of this community and it's it's an honor  
to also be able to serve in in every  
any way that's needed. So.

Well, Ditto to what they said. But in  
addition to that, approximately 12 years  
ago when Joe Funderberg was still here,  
the senior leadership team was started.

And I was blessed to be a part  
of that initial team. And I saw how  
well it worked in our church, How we.

Supported the staff and you were talking  
about vision and mission to be able to  
come alongside. We knew our role, we knew  
the staff's role, the committees role.

Everybody knew what their specific role  
was. But our role was distinct that we  
got to provide vision and mission. And  
those of you that have been around a  
while, remember discipleship when we  
started all of that, that was as a result  
of. The senior leadership team. So I am

excited to and humbly excited to be a part of this one more time. Thanks, Audie. Yes, I've been on the SLT for a few years and every time I ask God, why did you pick me? I don't know why, but he keeps doing that and I just keep saying yes. But I, I know that I'm looking forward to getting to know you guys all and just working together, but always just wanting to have a servant attitude and whatever God wants. So thanks. Alright, next question is a lot for you all. I'm gonna ask it on your behalf. So I recently heard leadership guy, he said, hey, the number one trait or necessity for successful leadership, the number one thing is you have to stay encouraged. And at first I was like. Sounds a little wishy washy, but the more I thought about it, the more I was like, yeah, that's true, man. Like if I don't stay encouraged, if I get discouraged, the whole thing starts to go downhill.

The number one most important thing as a leader outside of course, as Christians, of staying close and following and having a close relationship with God is you got to stay encouraged. You have to. That is just part of leadership. So here's the.

Question that I'm gonna ask on behalf of the church, and we'll just go back down the line. How can the people of the church help you all feel encouraged in your role on the SLT?

I pray, I think prayer is the number one and then also feedback, you know, good or bad helps us know you care. So just sharing what's on your heart.

I think we're all going to say prayer, right? So, well, OK, we've got that covered. So yeah, I, I think just sometimes when you are serving and somebody comes up and says Atta boy, Atta girl, you keep going, don't give up. You know, a hug and a high five I think are are really encouraging. And just just

a reminder, reminder. To us that you are continuing to keep us in your prayers.

It's encouraging to me to be a part of a group that has trust and can communicate openly and honestly. So the more we do that as a community and can build that trust and communicate well with each other, it will make things very, very easy and fruitful.

I didn't really know how to answer this one because I've never been a part of something like this before, so I'll keep you posted. Don't ask me about it.

I, yeah, I'm an open book and I, I love, I love having those kinds of conversations with, with all of you. I

will love having those conversations. And while I might not tell you that, you know, last meeting Andy had a crackpot

idea, but I, I would be looking forward to. Was talking about how how that's been for me and how how I get to love you in that way.

I also didn't quite know how to

answer. I'm of course, prayer. I can.

I'll take all I can get it.

Wisdom prayers for wisdom.

Being new, I, I don't want

to ever be sophomoric about this

church. I want to seek the

wisdom of the church that is

here and learn and grow from

you guys and just be a

team. So. Generally

prayer, yeah.

Well. I

go to Starbucks a lot.

OK, I'll, I'll echo what some of the

other people have said. Just a word of

encouragement every now and then. It's

really appreciated because on groups like

this and other that we've served, others

we've served in, it can kind of be

of a vacuum where you are out and

nobody is. Saying anything back to you.

So a word of encouragement, but most

importantly, if you have something that

you want. To have

known by the church leadership, tell me,  
OK, you can't tell me anything worse than  
things I haven't already heard, I  
promise. So if you communicate with me,  
that's the most encouragement because  
that makes me feel useful and I  
appreciate that. All right, before I let  
you off, we're going to do a. Rapid  
fire, and I do mean rapid fire questions.

So I'm sure you all have heard of AI,  
what a wonderful tool that is. And I got  
an AI and I said what are good random  
questions to ask a new senior leadership  
team? And here are the answers I got.

We're going to do one at a time and it's  
going to have to be fast, but let's see,  
I'm just going to pick them. Based on  
what I know from you guys, Andy, if you  
could tell your 18 year old self just one  
thing, just one. What  
would it be? Mary Bonita  
sooner? Ohh, good one, good  
one.

Alright, Claire. I

know you're very busy as a mom. You spend  
a lot of time at the at the grocery store  
because that's just part of raising kids.

What's a random store aisle? You always  
end up wandering down, even if you don't  
need anything there. Well, I was  
gonna say the organic Isle, but in truth  
it's the candy aisle. Ohh. Claire. Amen.

They now have organic candy to entice  
you. Alright TR, you have a cat and I  
know you have a cat cause we've babysat  
your cat before. I haven't. The girls  
have. They told me about it. TR, if your  
pet could leave you review. On a site  
like Yelp, what rating would they give

you and why? Ohh how? How recently have  
I fed him is the question. How recently  
have you fed him? Yep. OK he 3  
1/2. He likes me. He's more my cat  
than than Ava's cat for sure. But if  
I find him on the counter. I do  
beat the snot out of him, so I'm sure he  
would not appreciate that. He abuses me,  
he starves me.

Anyway, alright. Alright,

Kayla, this would be a good one for you.

You're in my spiritual formation group,

so I think I already know the answer to

this, but what is a quote? Little treat?

Just a little treat. A habit you

currently have that instantly improves

your day. Coffee. That's what I thought,

yeah.

Yeah, let's see, How do you kind of want

to know the same thing for you? I've

never, I don't know the answer to this

for you. I already knew it was coffee for

Caleb. What is that little treat you need

a boost? What do you go do to instantly

improve your day? I was going to say

coffee first thing in the morning, but I

also, I love podcasts. I love listening

to podcasts when I have a few extra

minutes to learn. Some new things. There

we go. Good choice. Alright, Christy.

Outside of marrying Thai.

If you could tell your 18 year old self

just one thing, this is a toughie, what

would it be? Don't worry, be happy. I was  
way too serious and I was, I worried a  
lot when I was 18, so I'm way more  
chill now, so I think I am anyway, you  
know? Christy, a wise villain, once said.

So serious. Maybe you should some of you  
get that reference. You can figure it out

later. TR gets it. Alright, OK. Hey,

before you guys go, I have a gift

for you. And I think

it is appropriate for your role at the

church.

OK, I give these to the deacons and I'm

going to start handing them out to the

senior leadership team as well. Each one

of you is going to get a towel, just as

was given to me when I was ordained. Now

you're not being ordained, you're just

being ushered into an unknown future. So

the goal of the towel, what is it? What

is it for? Well, of course, when Jesus

washed his disciples feet, he used the

towel to dry their feet. And so it

reminds you all that you are servant

leaders. But something else that occurred to me this week is what else do you use a towel for? You use it to clean up messes.

You use it to clean up messes. And part of your role in the church is going to be inevitably you're going to encounter those messes. And helping clean them up in a way that's God honoring, that's beneficial for everybody involved, and it points the way back to Christ. So you all get a towel to take home with you. We

want you to have clean hands, both literally and figuratively. And so these should help out with both.

All right, let's give him a round of applause.

OK. In just a minute, I'm going to invite up Adam Collins. Now Adam is get organized here.

There it is. Adam is our new pastoral intern for those of you who aren't tracking, and there's no reason you should be. But if you're

involved with Midwestern Baptist  
Theological Seminary, which is the main  
Southern Baptist seminary here in town,  
you know they have a pastoral internship  
program and it is exactly what it sounds  
like they could. Connect with other SBC  
churches in Kansas City and they have a  
way that the students who are working on  
their degree, Adam is working on his M  
Div. They can intern at different  
churches and it's mutually beneficial.

That doesn't make them an employee of the  
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church, just an intern, but basically  
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they can earn some credits while they  
work with the churches. It's a big help  
to the churches. It gives a chance for  
myself and other ministerial leaders.

Lizzie Bishop to help develop the next  
generation of ministers that are coming  
into the church. And it's also great  
experience for those seminary students.

So when I finished my degree or my last  
year at Dallas Theological Seminary, I

did the exact same thing. I went to my local church, I did a year long internship and that's part of the way I was able to convince my first job. Hire me. Like, look, I did an internship. I know what I'm doing. I have good things.

So it's it's helpful. Now, I'm gonna read Adam's bio and then I'm gonna invite him up and I'm gonna ask him a few questions as well. But Adam is coming here from Fort Campbell, KY, which is where we met each other. And let me just read his bio and then I'll invite him up. He says, hi, my name is Adam Collins. And I'm excited to work here at Nall Ave. Baptist Church.

I am a student attending Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary studying to earn a Masters of Divinity Mdiv. I was born in Gary, IN on September 9th, 1994 to Cornell and Rochelle Collins. I have two sisters, Xavier Ramirez and Antonia Collins. I also have a baby niece on the way. I graduated from the United States. Military Academy in 2018 with a

Bachelor of Science and Defense and

Strategic Studies with a systems

engineering track. I commissioned as a

second Lieutenant in the United States

Army in 2018 and served seven years as

a logistics officer. I was stationed at

Fort Lee, Virginia, Fort Bragg, 82nd

Airborne Division. Shout out to Mike

Thompson and then lastly. We improve by

coming Fort Campbell with the 101st

Airborne Division Air assault. Good

choice Adam. My parents brought me and my

sisters up in the church, but I did not

accept Jesus as my savior until I was 27.

My upbringing until then did not reflect

my profession of faith in Jesus Christ.

Despite my religious upbringing, I soon

began seeking God and other Christians

to surround myself with and learn from. I

knew I could do this by faithfully

attending church and reading my Bible. I

was a member of Lewis Chapel in

Fayetteville, NC, First Baptist Church in

Petersburg, and Mosaic Church in

Clarksville, TN. I believe my faith grew

most while I attended and served at

Mosaic Church. I served as a youth. That

is a youth. I served in the youth

ministry under Pastor Aston Hutchinson

for about 20 months. I look forward to

working with and joining this

congregation. Pastor Gene and I met while

we served in Romania in 2023. While we

were both active duty army, I was able to

learn and deepen my faith in Jesus,

attending his Bible studies and spending

time with him. Thank you to Pastor Gene

and the congregation as a whole. Giving

me this opportunity. God bless you. Let's

give Adam a hand. Adam, come on up.

Ohh, let's get you microphone.

2.

Testing. There we go. OK,

the Lord works in mysterious ways. When I

met Adam, where we were both on that

deployment, neither one of us had any

idea whatsoever that we would end up

working together at a church one day. But

God worked it out. One day he called me  
and said, hey, I'm probably going to come  
into Midwestern and so on and so forth.

Here we are now. So here are some  
questions for Adam. And we'll see how  
many of these we get through. But Adam,  
the bio helped us get to know you the  
basic facts. But tell us something that's  
not included in the bio. What do you do  
for fun? What's your favorite food And  
the only thing people really care about  
Which football team do you root for  
around here? So I'm not a fan of the  
Chiefs. I know that's a big thing I.

Sorry, not from Kansas, but no, what I  
like to do for fun is really just  
hanging out with friends. I like to watch  
movies, I like to eat junk food. I  
do exercise as I don't necessarily  
consider that something fun, but I do  
feel good after. But yeah, just hanging  
out with community, being in a community.

The People has really helped deepen  
my faith. What was my favorite

food? I would say probably. I'm

a guy, so I like pizza,

wings, hot dogs, French fries.

Stuff's not good for you, but I enjoy it.

And then I grew up 30 minutes from

Chicago, so I'm a I, I root for the

Chicago Bears. Hopefully they get

this this win tonight. Yeah. Sounds like

the Army has adequately degraded your

palette as it's supposed to happen. Yeah,

that's supposed to happen. It's like,

will it get me sick? No. OK, I'll eat it.

Alright, Adam, something that surprised

me about you, that you were a lot better

about this than I was when you got here,

which wasn't very long ago. You already

went out and saw a bunch of stuff in

Kansas City. I told Dana like, we should

probably do more of that. What are some

of the fun things you've done to explore

Kansas City so far? Yeah, so last week,

this past week, Roman, who's a youth

pastor. The way church we went and had

lunch at Joe's, the Rib Rib Rib place.

So that was pretty good. And other than  
that, I was here in November. Seth and  
I got together, but I was here in  
November and I went to a few museums  
in the Kansas City. So one of them  
was the Negro League Baseball Museum,  
another one was the Jazz Museum and then  
the War One Museum. And so just seeing  
that that area by the World War One  
Museum is really nice because they have  
the Union Station train station, they  
have the park. So it was just really nice  
to see Kansas City. Nice. Well, as you  
look forward to your seminary studies. I  
know I'm sure you probably feel about  
like I did. You don't totally know what  
you're getting yourself into and it's  
like, we'll just kind of see how this  
goes. But as you look forward to the next  
at least three years where you're working  
towards your MDiv, what are you most  
excited about with your seminary studies?  
Just getting a deeper understanding of  
Scripture, just gaining more knowledge,

not just for knowledge sake, but just  
how I can use that knowledge to  
for God's Kingdom and just being a  
better Christian, being able to serve and  
just figure out things that I can  
use to. Help others. What about your role  
here at the church as you look at your  
role? And Adam's gonna help with a lot of  
different things. Part of the part of the  
pastoral ministry, pastoral intern role  
is that he's going to get some experience  
in all different areas. So our deacons  
will get to know him a little bit.

Anything I can do to help develop him  
into the past or God's making? I'm going  
to be doing, but his primary function is  
with the youth, which is an area of  
definite need, and it's an area where  
Adam has quite a bit of experience  
actually. So Adam, as you look forward to  
serving with the youth here at NULL, what  
are you most excited about? Now.

Well, I just want to say the, the youth  
in the time that I've been here are very

smart. I, I've been, this is the third Sunday school that I've been attending with the students. And I mean these kids, they, they know a lot. My man Clay back there, he, he, he is very knowledgeable. And the other kids too are very knowledgeable. In the Bible, so if you're a parent and your child goes to that Bible to that Sunday school, I mean they are really impressive. So that's something that I'm continually to look forward to is just finding my way any way that I can help to deepen that knowledge, deepen that desire that passion to learn about God and to. Be good Christians. So that's something that I'm. I'm looking forward to. Yeah. I mean, I know Clay is smart. I heard there's a Thea. I think her name is supposed to be like. Better than Clay even. But that's just the rumor at church. I don't want to might be unsubstantiated. Alright, Hey, same question for for you. A huge part of I think that guy's probably right. The

biggest part of leadership is you got to

stay encouraged. So how can we as a

church help you, help encourage you and

your role at the church? The senior

leadership team, I mean, hit it spot on

by a prayer. You all have been very

kind to me, introducing yourselves. I'm

learning people's names. So I'm, I'm

enjoying that by just meeting everybody,

just seeing the kindness that that my

congregation has. Just me getting here

only a few weeks ago. So just continuing

to be kind. Praying for me and if

you all want to volunteer to help me

out that would be great as well too.

So Sunday schools or Wednesdays? Alright

Adam I I have the same gift for

you as I got for the senior leadership

team, but I got you 2 towels because

kids are a ton of work. And I thought

you might need them. I also thought the

number of messages you might clean up

maybe more than average. And so 2 towels

for you. And I'm going to say a quick

prayer over you. And then I'm gonna  
invite Aaron to come up. Lord, thank you.  
Ohh. Yeah. Absolutely. Sorry. Go ahead.  
Yeah. So this Wednesday, if you all have  
kids that go to the Sunday school, please  
come. If you're a parent, 6:30, just to  
get to know me more. We can talk about  
things that I wanna do in the future. So  
this Wednesday, 6:30, if your child goes  
to the Sunday schools or participate on  
Wednesdays, please be there. Yeah. So  
thanks for reminding me of that. Parents.  
Again, that will be an opportunity to get  
to know him, hear about Adam's philosophy  
of ministry, approach to youth ministry,  
all of that. So we invite you to be  
there. When's. This Wednesday, 6:30, our  
brother, we pray over you. Father, thanks  
for thanks to my friend Adam. Lord,  
again, you work in mysterious ways.  
Neither one of us expected to be standing  
up on this stage right now, and yet you  
brought it together. And Lord, I just  
lift up him as he starts down this road

of not only working on his masters up at  
Midwestern, but also serving here at the  
church. Would bless him, grow him,  
develop him into the man, the leader, the  
pastor that you're making him to be. And  
so, Lord, we commit him to you and we  
thank you for the blessing of bringing  
him here to Null to help out here. We  
pray this in Jesus name, Amen. Thanks,  
brother, appreciate it. Yep. All right,  
we got one more. Aaron, if you could go  
ahead and come up.

OK. So about a year  
ago. I think we're gonna need that  
about a year ago, maybe a little more  
than that. We  
were kind of in trouble as a church. We  
really, really needed an interim worship  
pastor. And I remember praying and being  
like, hey, God, we really, really need an  
interim worship pastor. And like nothing,  
nothing was happening. I, I had every  
lead I could think of. And then out of  
the blue, I get a resume. From Aaron and

he came in, we interviewed him and I  
think I'm safe in saying that we all feel  
you have done an absolutely wonderful job  
938  
00:37:55,934 --> 00:37:57,1000  
for the last year being here. Let's go  
939  
00:37:57,1000 --> 00:37:59,291  
and give Aaron a hand.

Actually over a year at this point. So  
being a worship leader is not an easy  
thing. It's the second most visible role  
in the church. There's a lot of people  
who have a lot of different opinions and  
things like that. And it takes a strong  
leader and it takes somebody who knows  
how to work well with others to be able  
to fold that fill that role, excuse me,  
particularly as an interim worship  
leader. You know, you're not gonna be  
there terribly wrong. Wrong, man. It's  
getting late, long. You're not gonna be  
there terribly long. And Aaron, I just  
gotta say, I've told many people this. I  
was like, you have been the easiest  
person to work with, I think I've ever  
worked with. Yeah. And by that I mean

somebody who's coming in just from the outside, who's only here about, you know, 8 to 10. Hours, weeks, something like that. This guy has been such a blessing.

He's listening to every bit of feedback that I've given them, and he's given me feedback too. And he's been more than happy if I've had ideas to, you know, his

TR said. Like that may not be a good idea, Seth, but we've always had really

good constructive dialogue and you've

969

00:39:02,944 --> 00:39:04,1000

just been a huge blessing us in the

970

00:39:04,1000 --> 00:39:07,577

church. So we have a card. For you and I

asked Aaron what what do you want as far

as a gift? And he just said how about

some gift card for local coffee place. So

we got him a gift card that's in there

and Aaron, I'm just going to go ahead and

pray over you and then he's going to

close this out with our last song. And

then after that I invite you all to go

ahead and head out to the lobby and we're

going to have some. Foods and snacks and

treats out there. Aaron is going to be out there. It's a chance to shake his hand, give them a hug, tell him how much you appreciate him. Adam will be out there. The senior leadership team will be out there. We'll just spend some time fellowshipping as a church family. So, Aaron, let me go ahead and pray over you.

Lord, thank you for my brother Aaron and just what a blessing he has been. Lord, thank you for the time that you have brought him here and I'll have you Baptist Church. Lord, as he steps aside to take care of his dad and just declining health issues, I pray that you would bless him and that endeavor. Pray to give him strength. You get him focused, you give him energy to take care of his family that needs him right now.

Thank you for the blessing that he's been here, for his leadership, for his piano playing, for just what a great guy he is, how easy he is to work with. And Lord, I pray over him as he moves into this next

season of life, that you would continue  
to bless him, grow him, support him. I  
pray you give him a many good outlets for  
his musical talents. And we just thank  
you, Lord, that he has chosen to use  
these. Service here and all we pray this  
in Jesus name, Amen. Let's give her a  
hand.

Our worship team, if you want to go ahead  
and come back up.

Would you please stand up?

I believe in Christ.

He raised victorious  
his Kingdom.

Umm.

It's home. I

don't want that.

Arise.

Umm.

Umm.

We will see you  
shining brighter than ever,  
Sun all day. We  
will know you.

We will praise you for your.

And we will keep our

seedling on that.

What a blessing and hope.

We will fairly

turn around. Save

your soul.

We grieve our

losses. We reply

in vain.

So we don't know.

Crowd of glory waits

beyond the grave.

We will see you.

We will know you

as we lift our

voice, as one day

we will praise you

for your never ending

grace and we will

keep our.

Glorious day.

Will be.

Forever.

Enjoy.

Into your arms, open  
wide. I will see.

My father.

For me.

It will be.

At all with you, my  
joy is complete.

Ran into your arms,  
open wide.

My father.

My father.  
On that day, we  
will see you shining  
brighter than the sun.

All that day we  
will know you as  
we lift our voices  
one. Day

we will praise you  
for your never ending  
grace and we will  
keep on receiving all  
that boring.

All day today we  
will see you shining  
brighter than the sun.

We will know you as  
we lift our voice as  
one. Till that day. We  
will pay you for your  
never ending grace, and we  
will.

See.

We will keep  
on singing on  
that glorious.

Well, good morning, good afternoon. My  
name is John Cowell. For those that don't  
know me, I'm a Deacon on the Deacon body  
here at the Mall Ave. Baptist Church. I  
will be up here at the end of the service  
to pray if anybody wants to come up here,  
if they have a decision they want to make  
or pray about anything, and Jeff Gomer  
will. Will join me in that as well, but I  
want to leave you with.

Making my Bible. With

Aaron's blessing out of Numbers chapter

6, the Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon

you and be gracious to you. The Lord

lift up his countenance upon you and give

you peace. Go and have a great week.

Thank you.