

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 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 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.

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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 Nigro. 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

seeding 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.