

Big idea: Our plans and God's providence should not be in conflict; in fact, they should connect each step of the way.

I. A look back from 2017 to 2026

A. It all started as a PRAYER for CCC...10 things to pray

1. Worship with an undistracted heart
2. God reveal the wonders of his Word
3. Deepen our faith and joy in the gospel
4. Cause us to treasure your Bride, the church
5. We would build each other up in love
6. Love would adorn the gospel in our lives
7. Protect us from evil people and evil ideas
8. Guide our leadership in shepherding the flock
9. Equip us for our mission
10. Deepen our longing for Christ's return

B. It has continued as an annual THEME each year

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| 1. People of the <u>BOOK</u> | 2017 |
| 2. People in step with the <u>SPIRIT</u> | 2018 |
| 3. People on a <u>MISSION</u> | 2019 |
| 4. People in <u>COMMUNITY</u> | 2020 |
| 5. People in <u>UNITY</u> | 2021 |
| 6. People who love the <u>CHURCH</u> | 2022 |
| 7. People of <u>PRAISE</u> | 2023 |
| 8. People living in the light of his <u>RETURN</u> | 2024 |
| 9. People trusting God for the <u>FUTURE</u> | 2025 |
| 10. People in <u>TRANSITION</u> | 2026 |

II. A look forward beyond 2026

A. SUCCESSION is part of God's plan

B. Succession always HAPPENS

1. Moses to JOSHUA
2. Aaron to ELEAZER
3. Elijah to ELISHA
4. Saul to DAVID
5. David to SOLOMON
6. Peter to PAUL
7. Paul to TIMOTHY and TITUS

C. Succession is a good time to remind ourselves about ENDURING truths

- 1. This is God's church, this is Christ's church, we want to MAKE and KEEP God central**
- 2. God is in CONTROL, we trust in his sovereign providence**
- 3. God's people are FAMILY**

D. Succession – what does it LOOK like?

- 1. This fall the elders will finish laying the GROUNDWORK**
- 2. Sometime in early 2027 the official SEARCH will begin**
- 3. The process will unfold with APPLICANTS, interviews and finally a recommendation from the elders**
- 4. There is no substitute for PRAYER**
 - Pray for our next Senior Pastor – ask God to give us a pastor who has a heart for God and for his Word. A servant who will guide us with knowledge, truth, and understanding. Jeremiah 3:15**
 - Pray for our Elders and Search committee. Pray they will rely on the Holy Spirit to recognize whom God has chosen. Proverbs 4:5**
 - Pray for all the CCC staff – faithfulness and encouragement. Ask that they remain strong and immovable, continuing to work enthusiastically for the Lord. 1 Corinthians 15:58**
 - Pray all the CCC ministries and volunteers – appreciation and unity. Pray that we would honor God by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another well. Philippians 2:2**
 - Pray for Carlon & Bonnie – guidance, peace and blessing as they transition to a new role in the next year or so.**

III. What we take away...

Our God is absolutely trustworthy. We've seen it in our past. We're living it in the present. We're trusting God alone with our future.