

Letter From The Pastor

I greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is with joy, appreciation and much love that I write to you. Our God is great and God is greatly to be praised.

Thank you to the Westside Missionary Baptist Church for your expressions of love on my 15th Pastoral Anniversary. It is hard to believe that it has been 15 years. You will never know how much your acts of kindness and gestures of love mean to me. The work we feel called to engage is more often met with critique and criticism than it is celebration. That reality made every gift; every smile and every thank you mean that much more. It was for me a “God wink” moment. It was God using you to encourage me to continue in the struggle. THANK YOU!

We also want to thank you for your patience and understanding as we seek the will of God for our return to public worship. Our ultimate goal is to “Love our neighbor.” As we attempt to discern the will of God and read the signs of the times your safety is our priority. According to the New York Times, Chattanooga, TN is number 2 in the entire country for percentage growth of COVID-19. Most states in our country are recording record highs of coronavirus cases and hospitalizations. As the economy opens up and “cabin fever” has a number of people traveling and taking vacations, without a vaccination in sight, it is our job to be good stewards of your health and humanity. We do not want our zeal to overlook the facts. We desire our “zeal for God to be according to knowledge.” Let us continue to pray as we seek to move in faith and with wisdom.

Finally, allow me to encourage you to continue being the epitome of a “Beloved Community.” So many great things I am hearing about individuals looking out for their neighbors without any fan fair or craving for recognition. That is what being “The Body of Christ” is all about. This is the season for all of us to be an extension of God’s incarnation and love. Keep up the great work!

Do Justice, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

- Pastor Timothy Careathers



Casting, Catching, Caring

WESTSIDE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH