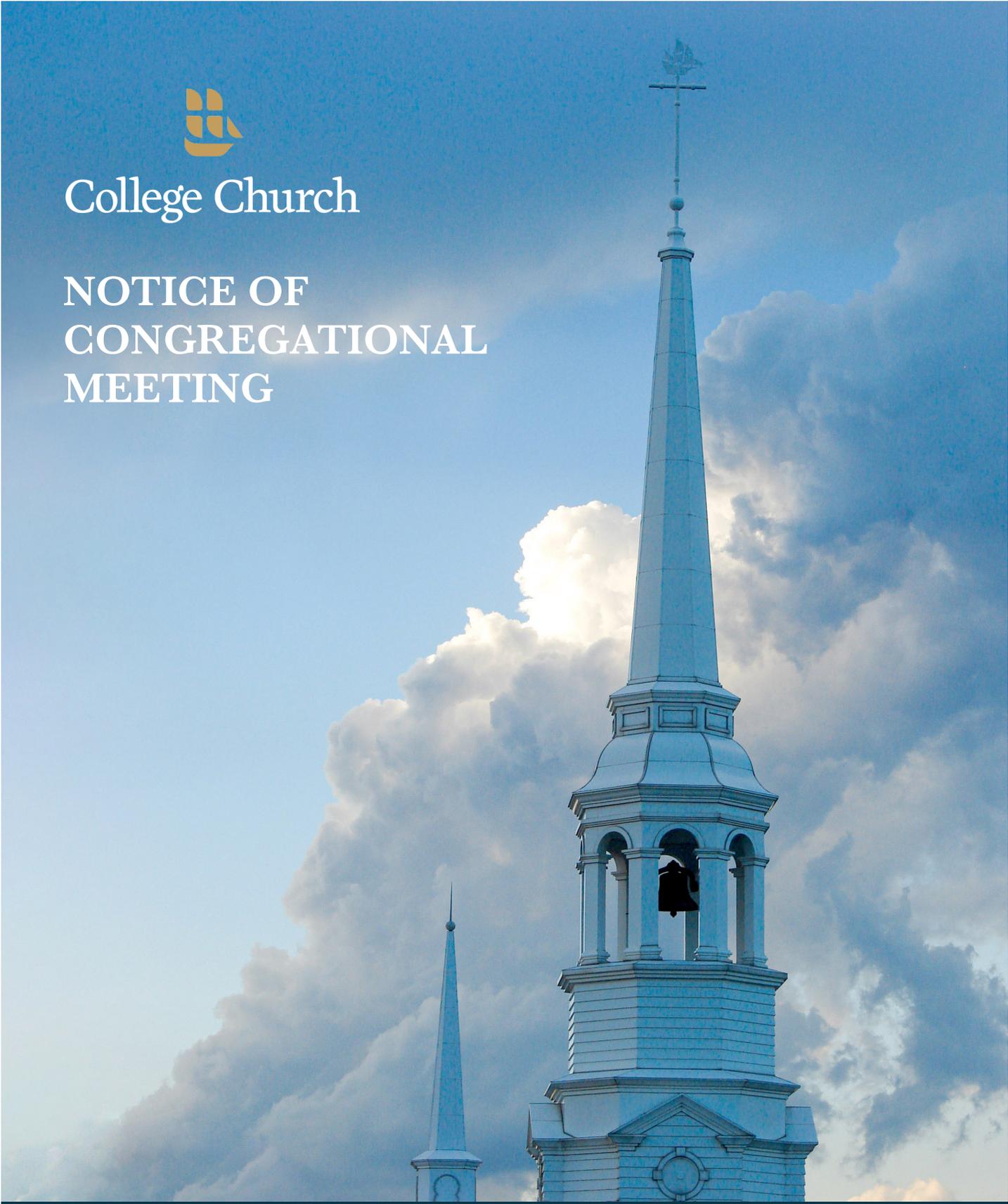




College Church

NOTICE OF
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING



DECEMBER 5, 2021



College Church

Proclaiming the Gospel

NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On December 5, 2021, during the 5 p.m. evening service, the members of College Church will vote on the calling of Josh Maurer to the position of Pastor of Discipleship. This will be a hybrid meeting and we encourage members to attend in person in the Sanctuary of College Church. Those who are unable to attend in person may join via Zoom.

Informational Meetings will take place in the fireside area on Wednesday, December 1, at 8 p.m., and via Zoom on Saturday, December 4, at 8 a.m.

We will be acting on the following motion from the Council of Elders:

12-5-2021

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE JOSH MAURER AS
PASTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP**

WHEREAS: The Bylaws provide that “The Senior Pastor shall recommend to the Council for its approval those of his choice to serve as members of the Pastoral Staff”; and

WHEREAS: Senior Pastor Josh Moody has recommended Josh Maurer as Pastor of Discipleship; and

WHEREAS: The Council of Elders has interviewed Josh Maurer on topics such as his sense of call to this position, his commitment to the Church’s Articles of Faith and Standards of the Christian Life, his personal habits of Christian maturity, and his views on key cultural issues, and the Council has recommended that he be approved as Pastor of Discipleship;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That Josh Maurer is hereby approved as Pastor of Discipleship beginning immediately.

ANNOUNCING JOSH MAURER

as the Candidate for Pastor of Discipleship at College Church

HIS JOURNEY OF FAITH

Josh Maurer began life in a strong Christian home. His parents were actively involved in church, consistent in attendance and diligent in family devotions at home. A favorite memory of Josh's is Christmas mornings with dad reading the birth narrative from Luke 2 (before presents) and reminding the family of the day's ultimate significance, that Jesus was born to die as the Savior of the world as Luke 2:11 declares. "I grew up with the grammar of Christianity and the example of imperfect, yet faithful Christian parents" Josh says.

When Josh was seven years old, the family attended an Easter musical on a Sunday evening at a large church about 30 minutes from where they lived. At the end of the production, the pastor explained the meaning of Jesus' death and resurrection and called for people to repent of their sins and receive the gift of forgiveness and new life in Jesus. Josh turned to his mother and said he wanted to know Jesus. So, right there, his mother led him in a prayer in which he confessed his sin and asked to receive Jesus as his Lord and Savior.

HOW JOSH CAME TO COLLEGE CHURCH

When Josh and Caitlin decided to come to Wheaton College for Josh to pursue a PhD in New Testament and Biblical Theology, they began asking friends who had lived in the Chicago area if they had any churches they would recommend. When Rod and Libby VanSolkema were asked about churches, they recommended the one where Rod had served as high school pastor years ago: College Church. This was also the church of Josh's doctoral mentor and advisor, Doug Moo. When they arrived in Wheaton, College Church was the first church they visited. They did visit other churches but decided to make College Church their home.

OTHER MINISTRIES INVOLVEMENT

Before coming to College Church, Josh served as an associate pastor at Hastings Baptist Church (Hastings, MI) for nearly four years, preaching, leading worship and leading the college student ministry. He also served as the youth pastor for two years at the church. Here at College Church, he served in a handful of ministries as a ministry associate with visitation, College Group, music, HYACKs, preaching on a few occasions and even officiating at a funeral before joining the pastoral residency program.

As a pastoral resident, Josh has worked closely with Pastor Moody in various ways, as well as teaching in Men's Bible Study and various Adult Communities. He has served extensively with Pastor Erik Dewar in music and worship, and been involved in numerous ways with regular shepherding.



Josh and Caitlin have been married for 14 years and have four children: Natalie, Celia, Annabelle and Tobin.

MOTIVATION FOR SERVICE

Josh's motivation is to serve the Lord, most fundamentally, based on Deuteronomy 10:12, "What does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul?"

He says, "God has graciously called me to be among his people, and the fruit of such calling is a desire to serve him with my entire life. What motivates me to serve the church, in no particular order, is love for the church, a desire to see the church flourish in manifold ways, it's part of God's calling on my life and the desire not to waste my life. Paul refers to the pastoral office as a 'noble task' (1 Tim. 3:1), worthy of aspiration. I can be an instrument in God's mighty work as he transforms people's lives by his Spirit through his Word. I can walk with people in life's greatest joys and sorrows, praying that God is magnified in my life (Phil 1:20; 1 Pet 4:10). I resonate with the Apostle Paul, who, reflecting on his own motivation for his ministry, said, 'The love of Christ controls us.' (2 Cor 5:14)."

JOSH MAURER ON HIS DISSERTATION TOPIC OF ADOPTION

Josh considers adoption to be a key word theologically. "Adoption is a Bible word," he says. "The Apostle Paul is the only author to use the term, and in only five places (Rom 8:15, 23; 9:4; Gal 4:5; Eph 1:5). But here is a good example of the principle that significance is not measured merely by occurrence. The significance of adoption far surpasses what might at first be imagined by the few times it occurs.

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"Salvation itself, from beginning to end, can be conceived as adoption. Or, in other words, we could say that adoption consists in 'being conformed to the image of his son, so that he [Jesus] might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters' (Rom 8:29). Because of our adoption as sons and daughters of God, we, like Jesus the Son, enjoy intimacy with the Father. Like Jesus, we have the indwelling Holy Spirit to lead us in loving obedience to the Father. Like Jesus, we endure suffering on the way to glory. Like Jesus, this glory consists in bodily resurrection, the right to rule with him over God's new creation, and the inheritance of all things. This is what it means to 'be conformed to the image of his son.' And all these benefits come to us precisely and only because we are adopted sons and daughters of God."

DISCIPLESHIP AND SERVICE

When it comes to discipleship, Josh explains, "Discipleship at its simplest means trusting Christ and then following him, learning from him, and seeking to live our lives in conformity to his. This is a lifelong process, for which we need each other: "Take care, brothers and sisters, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called 'today,' that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end" (Heb. 3:12-14). As Christians, as disciples of Christ, we are also servants of Christ (1 Cor. 6:19-20). And to be a servant of Christ means we are also servants of his body, the church. Each of us has a calling on our lives to be engaged with the local church, offering our gifts, time and resources for the edification of Christ's body.

"It is important to assess how God has gifted you individually, to look for ways to use that gift, but you can't allow gift to ministry matching unnecessarily limit you. Some of the most important ministry with people does not require extraordinary ability, but simply a humble and willing spirit. God loves to use us precisely when we are, and know we are, weak and insufficient (2 Cor 2:16; 12:9).

"When Peter says, 'As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace,' he assumes you have by God's grace an important gift to offer the church (1 Pet 4:10). See yourself as a vital ingredient to the health of the church. And then rest in the awesome truth that God will empower you for service. Peter goes on to say in that same passage, 'whoever serves, [let him/her] serve by the strength that God supplies, in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ' (1 Pet 4:11). The aim of your service is the glory of God. And God ensures that this will be accomplished by giving you the strength to do it. Be encouraged. God will strengthen you for your service."

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title	Pastor of Discipleship
Reporting	Reports to the Executive Pastor and is accountable to the Council of Elders
Primary Objective	Make disciples, lead others to make disciples, and develop the church's discipleship ministries

Principal Duties

1. Lead the discover pathway
 - a. Community reach including next gen millennials, gen z etc.
 - b. Front door ministries, membership and assimilation
2. Oversee the Adult Communities
 - a. Increase the reach of the Adult Communities, including to young families
 - b. In concert with lay leaders facilitate the teaching curriculum
3. Direct the small groups ministry
 - a. Increase the reach of Small Groups
 - b. Provide regular, deliberate training of small group leaders
4. Plan special occasional weekend seminars tackling important discipleship topics like marriage and family
5. Oversee Men's Ministries
 - a. Work with the men's ministry team to lead its midweek Bible studies and conferences
6. Oversee 20s Ministries
 - a. Work with staff and lay leaders to develop and grow the 20s ministries
7. Share in and support the implementation of College Church's vision and strategic plan
8. Share in the pastoral care of the overall College Church congregation including preaching, teaching, officiating at weddings and funerals, visitation and counseling
9. Perform other duties as directed by the Senior Pastor