

MONDAY, JUNE 27

DEAR CHURCH FAMILY.

For those who were unable to join us in our worship gatherings on Sunday, we shared two important announcements in connection with recent court decisions. One of these was, of course, concerning the recent reversal of Roe v. Wade by the United States Supreme Court. The second announcement was an update on the final step in our Plan for Lawsuit Resolution.

At the beginning of our services, Pastor David joined us remotely and led a pastoral prayer thanking God for the incredible news that, for the first time in almost fifty years, there is no longer a constitutional right in our country to end the life of a child in their mother's womb. If you missed it, you can watch David's pastoral prayer at this link. This is an encouraging step toward justice for unborn children, and we also recognize that there are a variety of challenges (personal, social, relational, economic, educational, spiritual, etc.) that we as Christians need to advocate for and contribute toward for the sake of women, expecting parents, and vulnerable children. David will be preaching in all of our services this coming Sunday, July 3 and addressing these issues directly from God's Word. Please make every effort to join us this Sunday morning!

In addition to the news above, our Location Pastors also announced that the approved Plan for Lawsuit Resolution recently resulted in a judge dismissing the lawsuit filed against our church in association with our elder election last summer. We have been seeking peace and resolution for almost a year now, and many of you fasted and prayed for this exact news, and we celebrate it with you as we thank God for His grace and faithfulness. As you know, our new elder board has now been formally installed and all of us – Elders, Lead Pastors, Location Pastors, and Central Ministry Directors – are looking forward to moving forward together on our mission to glorify God by making disciples and multiplying churches among all nations, beginning right here in Greater Washington.

In light of this significant news for our church family, David and Mike both personally wanted to share their personal excitement and gratitude with you:

From David: "By God's grace, our church family has come together in ways far beyond what I could have imagined to resolve conflict as biblically and peacefully as possible. Amidst a divisive culture around us, members of our church family have clearly stated that they want to move forward together as a thriving, united church bringing hope to the nations, starting here in Washington, D.C. I know that many churches across our country have faced and are facing similar challenges during these days, and it is vitally important that we move past division and live out John 13:35, demonstrating love for one another and love for a world in need of Jesus."

From Mike: "This has been a difficult season for our church, as well as for the broader Church here in the U.S. And yet, I'm so thankful for the growing unity and enthusiasm we've been experiencing in the midst of it all. I have had the privilege of serving this church family for 15 years and I'm excited to see how God will continue to work in and through us in this next chapter. We are incredibly diverse, with different backgrounds, perspectives, and personal convictions on a variety of issues. But we are unified in our commitment to obeying God's Word, loving our neighbors, and bearing witness to the amazing grace that can only be found in a relationship with Jesus."

In so many tangible ways in recent days, God has again done more than we could ask or imagine. As we praise Him in all things, we also look forward to all that God has in store for us in the new chapter ahead!

Love in Christ, MBC Elders, Lead Pastors, Location Pastors, and Central Ministry Directors