

STAN HANKINS UPDATE

July 9, 2020

The church split during my tenure! ...That's gonna leave a mark.

Recall in March, I began assisting a church in Texas in full-blown crisis. Tension escalated. My role, was to navigate the turbulence. A bumpy ride. Working nonstop for four months, with zero time off, took a toll on my health, physical and otherwise. Fortunately, my spiritual vitality flourished! Desperation has a way of doing that, ya know.

Aside from regular pastoral and preaching duties, energies focused on stabilizing and energizing ministry staff, as well as facilitating the Church Council to administratively manage the tedious process. The former proved productive; the latter elusive. Yet, we did realize progress, culminating in the call of my successor, a specialized Interventional Interim Pastor, who will chart a definite course forward for the church. His arrival enabled my departure.

Covid realities have complicated life for us all. Flexibility is the name of the game! As I write, I wish I were lounging in balmy Island trade winds with my lovely wife and loyal weenie dogs. I haven't seen them in four months. Hawaii Quarantine procedure finds me presently residing in my son's home in Dallas, until we plot a strategy for my return. One way or another; I'm going home!

Yet, there is a limited window; for on September 1, I have accepted a call to serve familiar Becks Reformed Church in North Carolina as their Interim Pastor. Here we go again! The good news: this church is not in turmoil. Though, they have a slight hiccup here and there. We'll tackle things together. Unity and vision will enable to move forward in faith.

My heart yearns to resume itinerant ministry around the world, yet the Lord has opened unexpected doors for me to serve during this time of global uncertainty. Many in ministry have had to become creative, while others are forced simply to idle their engines. If the latter were to be the case for me, I tell you, I would need prayer and counseling! As it is now: I certainly could use your continued prayer. I am grateful to the Lord for unanticipated avenues to be useful for His Kingdom, to Brendalyn P. for her consistent patience, pliability, and encouragement, and to you for your continued prayer and support.

I have no way of knowing what the future holds, but you and I take great comfort in knowing who holds us in the palm of His nail scarred hand.

Aloha, for now,
Stan

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