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February 1, 2021

To the church family:

Thank you for your support of Ellerslie Road Baptist Church and your interest in the forthcoming meeting regarding the lead pastor transition. This document provides background information on the transition process and Pastor Dave. This email also includes instructions on how to access the Zoom online meeting platform and how to vote.

Please save this document and review its contents. You may contact Russ McDermott in the Church Office (rmcdermott@erbc.ca) with questions or to request further information.

Meeting Announcement

Congregational Meeting, Sunday, February 7, 2021, at 12:30 pm

The Church Board has called a Special Meeting to vote on the proposal to affirm Pastor Dave Schmidt as the next Lead Pastor for Ellerslie. This meeting will include a discussion of the anticipated transition timeline for succession from Pastor Mel to Pastor Dave.

All who consider Ellerslie to be their church home are welcome to join us for this important meeting, which will be conducted via Zoom. Registration is required, and an advance ballot is available for members who are unable to attend the meeting.

Registration

In accordance with the Church Bylaws (§ 6.3), the Church Board has determined that this meeting will be held in whole via the Zoom meeting platform. The meeting will be open to all members and non-members, but only members will be allowed to vote.

To attend this meeting, you must:

- Register with the Church Office (office@erbc.ca) to confirm your membership status. Also, please note that the meeting package will only be distributed through the Church Office, since the package includes personal details regarding the Schmidt family.
- Also register with Zoom individually. You may use the shortened link or the full link:
-Short: <http://bit.do/erbc-meeting>
-Full: https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZMrcuuqD8vGdHsy3eX_V1NnSwjAGrs1gWm
(After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about accessing the meeting.)

All members who wish to vote during the meeting will need to register via Zoom and login using their unique information that will be provided after registration is approved. You may access the meeting from most internet devices, including, desktop computer, cell phone, and tablet.

Alternately, you may access the meeting via telephone. To obtain telephone information, please register for the meeting via Zoom, as outlined above. *To vote during the meeting, you will need to participate using the Zoom app, as the voting feature is not available via telephone.*

Online voting during the meeting

When your Zoom meeting registration is approved, you will receive an email with the meeting login instructions. **Please note that this link is unique and should not be shared with anyone else**, including your spouse. Therefore, all ERBC voting members from one household who wish to vote must register separately and access the meeting via Zoom and their own registrations.

Please confirm in advance that you have the Zoom app installed on the device you will use during the meeting. The Zoom app is available for almost all computers, platforms and devices. If you need to download the Zoom app: <https://zoom.us/download>

The vote will be taken using the Zoom polling feature. At the time of the vote, all non-members will be excused from the meeting and the poll will be launched. This is an anonymous vote. The software will not keep a record of anyone's vote.

The results of the poll will be recorded via a screenshot and visible to multiple meeting hosts, who collectively will serve as scrutineers and affirm the results.

Advance Voting

The Church Board has authorized an advance poll for this meeting. Those members who are unable to attend the meeting or plan to attend via telephone are welcome to vote anonymously in advance. To request a ballot, please contact the Church Office (office@erbc.ca). *All advance ballots must be received by 12:00 noon on Friday, February 5.* **Ballots must be received by the Church Office no later than 4:00 pm on Monday, February 8.**

Ballots may also be emailed to vote@erbc.ca. (Please note that emailed ballots will not be anonymous, however, your vote will be kept confidential.)

Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Prayer
3. Presentation on Search Process
4. Introduction of Dave Schmidt
5. Anticipated Transition Process
6. Questions & Answers
7. Vote (note that all non-members will be excused from the meeting)
8. Closing & Prayer

Results of the vote: The results of the vote will be shared the week of February 8th.

Message from the Board Chair on behalf of the Board of Directors of Ellerslie Road Baptist Church

Thank you for joining us on February 7th at our congregational meeting to seek God's will together for the future Lead Pastor of Ellerslie Road Baptist Church.

As a board, we have been in discussion regarding this transition from Pastor Mel Fehr to the next lead pastor for many months. We have worked through the Search Committee of the Board to recommend Pastor Dave Schmidt as the preferred candidate for this position.

We first shared the news of this transition with the congregation at our congregational meeting on October 25th. We have further shared this information through an edition of Steps and Strides on November 6th. On December 8th and December 13th, we hosted Zoom-based town hall meetings to give congregants a chance to hear from Pastor Dave and to ask questions.

It has been a very unusual season of church life with our inability to meet in person due to public health measures and hosting major meetings and discussion in an on-line format. As a board, we have been meeting regularly through Zoom and have devoted much time in prayer to these important decisions. We are grateful for the commitment that you have demonstrated in praying for our pastors, other leaders, and the Board as we anticipate a change in leadership at Ellerslie.

As a board, we are excited to see how God may lead us through Pastor Dave's role as our next lead pastor and feel he is well suited to carry on the torch from Pastor Mel. Dave's integrity, commitment to teaching from the Word of God, his love for Ellerslie and the surrounding community, his ability to lead and manage staff with excellence, and his energy and enthusiasm for what lies ahead, despite the challenges of leading through a global pandemic, give us confidence that he will be a passionate and effective lead pastor.

We appreciate Pastor Dave's humility and willingness to hold this role in an open hand and accept that the congregation would appreciate an opportunity to demonstrate their support for Pastor Dave through a congregational vote.

As congregational members, we appreciate the importance of this vote and we encourage all of you to take the opportunity to either vote on-line at our Zoom congregational meeting or by advance voting

-Curt Johnston

Congregational Meeting, Sunday, February 7, 2021

How to vote

We want every member of the church to have an opportunity to vote, and have three options to choose from:

1. Vote “Live” During the Zoom Meeting

If you plan to attend the Zoom meeting, you may vote using the polling feature that will be active at the end of the meeting. This will be a completely anonymous vote, but each person voting will need to log into Zoom using their own login.

2. Bring a Paper Ballot to the Church Office

You may print a ballot at home or get a fresh one at the Church Office. **We will accept paper ballots until 4:00 pm on Monday, February 8th.**

3. Email or Fax a Ballot to the Church Office

You may email your ballot to vote@erbc.ca. (This will not be an anonymous vote, however, we will keep your vote confidential.)

You may fax your ballot to the Church Office 780-436-7925. (Again, this is not anonymous, however, we will keep your vote confidential.)

We want everyone eligible to have the opportunity to vote. For assistance or if none of these options will work for you, please contact the Church Office via email (office@erbc.ca) or telephone (780-437-5433).

Paper ballots are available by request from the Church Office or may be downloaded here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/15pOZfjiBBdUDcoHFRDcLobTBNhkLGWAU/view?usp=sharing>

Congregational Meeting February 7, 2021

Advance Ballot Instructions:

To vote in advance, please print this page, mark your vote, and return it to the Church Office ~~by 12:00 noon on Friday, February 5, 2021.~~ **Ballots will be accepted by the Church Office until Monday, February 8, at 4:00 pm.**

If you do not have access to a printer, copies of the ballot are also available at the Church.

*****Completed ballots may also be emailed to vote@erbc.ca. (Emailed ballots will not be anonymous, however, your vote will be as confidential as possible.)**

Regular office hours are Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm.
(Please note: closed between 12 noon - 1pm)

There will be an anonymous “live” vote via Zoom at the end of the congregational meeting. Please do not return this ballot if you plan to attend and vote at the Zoom meeting. Those who vote in advance will not be permitted to participate in the live vote.

MAKE AN APPROPRIATE MARK INSIDE THE BOX FOR YES or NO

“An appropriate mark” may be a check mark (✓) or an “x”.

Any other mark or comment on a ballot will render it as SPOILED

After a thorough discernment process, the Board of Directors of Ellerslie Road Baptist Church presents Pastor David Schmidt as the next Lead Pastor.

Motion: That David Schmidt be called to become Lead Pastor of Ellerslie Road Baptist Church.

☐ Yes

☐ No

Telephone access for Zoom meeting

We can offer telephone access to the Congregational Meeting on February 7 for those who are not comfortable with the Zoom technology.

To telephone into the meeting:

1. Dial 1-587-328-1099
2. At the prompt, enter the Meeting ID: 876 5206 4535 (no spaces) followed by #
3. You will then be prompted to enter a participant code. Simply enter #
4. At the prompt, enter the Passcode: 193475 followed by #
5. You will be asked to record your name and then press #
6. After recording your name, you will join the meeting.

Please note that there are limits to the telephone access, such as not being able to participate in the vote. **Those who plan to access the meeting via telephone should plan to vote using a paper ballot, either in advance of the meeting or afterward.** Also, you should be aware that the telephone number you are calling from will be displayed in the Zoom meeting.

For the Congregational Meeting:

Zoom access number: 1-587-328-1099

Meeting ID: 876 5206 4535

Passcode: 193475