

GracePoint Pastor Search Timeline

August 2, 2023 – Pastor Chad resigns, leaving on August 31

August 14, 2023 – Brian Wright, NPD Superintendent gives insight to Pastor Chad and Elder Board

November 2023 – Pastor Search Committee started meeting

February 2024 – Lead Pastor Packet Released and Job Opening Posted

March 2024 – Pastor Search Committee did first and second rounds of interview

April 2024 – Pastor Carey and wife Mindi visit GracePoint

Search Committee Summary: Pastor Carey

Pastor Carey and his wife, Mindi, met at Colorado Christian University, and have lived in Colorado for several years working in ministry. While raising five children together, they have co-hosted two podcasts, which cover the subjects of Christian Marriage and Christian Parenting. In his words, “by God’s magnificent grace, all five of our children are now adults and walking with the Lord. We are so humbled and blessed.” He said they enter their empty nest years with a renewed sense of vision for what the Lord has in store for them. Both he and Mindi feel that God has greater things ahead and that He wants to use them to lead His church to a deeper, more devoted love for Him.

One of the things that stands out in Pastor Carey’s life is his walk with Jesus. He is a man very committed to prayer, starting his day at 4:30 am to begin reading the Bible, praying, and spending time growing close to the heart of God. A couple of attributes that many used to describe him are humble and authentic. He is a leader who strives to pour into the lives of his staff and others while equipping and discipling them.

Pastor Carey began serving in formal ministry in 1989, beginning as Director of Junior High Ministries. Through the 20+ years of his ministry career, he has served in the positions of Associate Director of Ministry, Teacher Pastor, and Lead Pastor. At the end of that 20+ years, he and his wife both felt that the calling for ministry had been removed for a season. During that time away from ministry, he started a business to support his family. The business, Podcast Fast Track (PFT) served over 40 podcasters per month and employed a team of 11 people at its height. During this season he also continued to use his teaching gifts by beginning a daily devotional podcast of his own, separate from the PFT business. The Morning Mindset is a 6-minute devotional to help Christians get their minds aligned with the truth of God's word and is heard by over 22,000 people daily. In further discussions with Pastor Carey regarding his business and separate podcast ministry, as well as in the search team's conversations with some of his references, it became apparent that both the business and the podcast ministry have been instrumental in strengthening his leadership and discipleship skills. He has recently handed off the leadership of the PFT business to his oldest son, but plans to continue the daily devotional podcast in his free time. You can hear the Morning Mindset at: <http://YourMorningMindset.com>

Pastoral Search Committee (PSC) process:

- Attended 6-hours of training presented by Flourish consultant.
- All committee members read and discussed the book, *When the Word Leads Your Pastoral Search: Biblical Principles and Practices to Guide Your Search* by Chris Brauns
- All PSC members committed to fasting and prayer throughout the search process.
- Instrumental in helping to develop the 19-page Lead Pastor Packet. This was useful in informing candidates about GracePoint with three major sections: *Our Story*, *Our Community*, and *Our Next Pastor*. It also contained a questionnaire for serious candidates to complete and submit to the PSC.
- Posted the Lead Pastor position to appropriate websites and reviewed nearly two dozen applicant submissions.
- Conducted eight video screening calls on candidates for consideration.
- Each PSC member reviewed a minimum of four sermon videos of each candidate with the completion of Sermon Evaluation Forms on each video viewed.

- Special PSC meetings held to discuss sermon evaluations, to discuss interviews and interview wives.
- Special PSC meeting held to discuss interviews and decide if candidate would be asked to travel to Bismarck for a weekend to meet with PSC, Elder Board, and church staff the weekend of April 26-28
- Special PSC meeting held to discuss weekend visit and vote whether to recommend candidate, Pastor Carey Green, to be considered as GracePoint Lead Pastor. PSC Vote: Unanimous "Yes"