

College Park Baptist Church

1701 Polo Road Winston-Salem, NC 27106



November 21, 2003

Dear College Park Baptist Church Member,

The Associate Pastor of Students and Families Search Committee of College Park Baptist Church is most happy to inform you that a candidate for the position has been selected.

The Personnel Committee met on April 7, 2003, to discuss the steps to be taken in the search. At that meeting, Ramon detailed his vision of the position of Associate Pastor of Students and Families and the Personnel Committee quickly shared and adopted that vision. The Committee selected eleven people to serve on the Search Committee, and the church approved those members in Conference on April 23, 2003.

On May 4, 2003, the Search Committee for Associate Pastor of Students and Families held the first formal meeting. The Search Committee developed a comprehensive plan to find the best candidate to lead the students and families of College Park. As many of you already know, the first step in the process was to formulate a job description that detailed the position and requirements of an Associate Pastor of Students and Families, which replaced the old job description of Minister of Youth and Education. This new position encompasses ministry to preschool, children, youth, college students and families. After several meetings, the Committee formalized the new job description. As we wrote and discussed this job description, we realized it would take a very special person to effectively handle the breadth of the new position. The new job description was then approved by the church in Conference on July 23, 2003.

The Search Committee met regularly during the following months and discussed many potential candidates. From the list of resumes, nineteen names were seriously discussed for the position. We asked for additional information on six people from those which were discussed. After the additional information was received, it became apparent that two candidates particularly stood out. The Search Committee traveled to meet with and interview those candidates and their wives on August 10, 2003. These meetings verified our feelings that we had two strong candidates for the position. When we contacted the candidates for a second interview, we were informed that one of them was already in the process of accepting a position of Youth Minister at another church. On September 12, 2003, the Search Committee hosted the candidate and his wife at the church for a second interview. They were shown the church campus, asked questions, ate with the Committee and were given a time to ask questions about College Park. The next morning, we met with them again for a final round of information sharing. On September 16, 2003, the Search Committee voted unanimously to recommend Jeff Allen for the position of Associate Pastor of Students and Families at College Park.

The Personnel Committee then voted unanimously to recommend Jeff for the position. On September 19, 2003, the information was shared with the Finance Committee, and on September 24, 2003, the Deacons were informed of the decision and affirmed it. On October 3 and 4, Jeff met with members representing the pre-school and children, youth, college students, recreation, Deacons and with the staff. The Personnel Committee continued with salary and benefit negotiations and Jeff, and Committee members continued to pray that the will of God would direct all of us. On Friday, October 31, 2003, Jeff Allen called to say that he felt he was being led by God to accept the call of College Park for the position of Associate Pastor of Students and Families.

So, who is Jeff Allen? Jeff is currently the Minister of Youth and College at Hayes Barton Baptist Church in Raleigh, NC where he has served since 1999. He previously served at Clemmons Baptist Church and has held advisory positions at Lewisville Baptist and Deep Creek Baptist Churches. He is thirty-one years old and is married to Jennifer Holleman Allen. Jennifer is originally from Kernersville and is an elementary school teacher in Wendell, NC. Jeff and Jennifer currently have no children. Jeff holds a Bachelor of Arts in Religion and Christian Ministries from Campbell University and a Master of Divinity with languages, with distinction from Campbell University Divinity School. A direct quote from Jeff's resume gives great insight into his thinking. It says, "It is my longing to join in service with a local church's ministry to students, parents, and adult volunteers to proclaim God as sovereign, Jesus as relevant, and the Holy Spirit as life changing. I wish to be involved in a church ministry that longs to progressively proclaim the eternal news of the gospel of Jesus Christ."

The Search Committee wholeheartedly recommends Jeff Allen to fill the position of Associate Pastor of Students and Families at College Park Baptist Church.

Sincerely,

Jim Pernel
Chairman of Search Committee – Associate Pastor of Students and Families