



# • BETHANY NORTHEAST •

Dear Friends,

If you are like me, you are being inundated with news and information related to the Novel Coronavirus outbreak (COVID-19). It has been, to say the least, an overwhelming and thoroughly unsettling time.

In the midst of this time, I have taken to meditating on a particular word of hope spoken over Israel as they faced a similarly difficult moment of collective turmoil:

*“Be strong. Take courage. Don’t be intimidated. Because GOD, your God, is striding ahead of you. He’s right there with you. He won’t let you down; he won’t leave you.” (Deuteronomy 31:6)*

This has been an important reminder to me of God’s faithful presence in not only our lives but also our city and our world. God is with us, and is devoted to our wholeness and flourishing.

That said, we have other important news to share with you, this time having to do with changes coming to the Bethany Northeast staff this Spring.

**On May 24, 2020, Becca LaNasa, Bethany Northeast’s Director for Children, Youth, and Families will be leaving our staff. This is of course big news, likely to bring on a wide range of thoughts and feelings. Which is why I’ve invited Becca to share a bit of her journey below:**

---

*After five years working at Bethany, my time as a staff member is coming to a close in late May. I have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to step back from work altogether for a season and spend time exploring big questions around God’s call on my life. This new season will involve some travel, some volunteering, and a whole lot of trust in God as He reveals what’s next.*

*Even as I try to anticipate the ambiguous road ahead, it is impossible to not feel sad about leaving my role at Bethany Northeast. This church is home away from home for Joseph and me. You’ve walked with us through significant life moments like getting married and becoming an aunt and uncle (five times over!). This church—and each of you in it—has been God’s balm and blessing. I feel profound gratitude for my time as a staff member here.*

*The greatest privilege of all has been watching the children of this church grow in their faith and find joy in the Lord. Baptisms, dedications, graduations—these are the milestone moments you've allowed me to be a part of in the lives of your kids. Thank you.*

*The specifics of this next season are still taking shape for me, and I'll gladly tell you more over coffee or in a face-to-face conversation. I am confident that the Lord has new blessings for Bethany Northeast in this time of change as Jack, Silas, Andrew, and Amy continue leading our community. My prayers for this church are full of hope and excitement as I anticipate how the Holy Spirit will keep broadening our vision of God's kingdom come in this city.*

---

**As Becca already noted, we are eager to respond to specific questions related to her transition. To allow for this, Becca has created “Online Office Hours” tomorrow, Wednesday, March 18, from 1:30-2:30 PM. You can “meet” her by simply following this [LINK](#). If that time doesn’t work, you’re invited to reach out to either of us directly via email.**

**On behalf of Becca and our entire staff, may you experience the peace of Christ and the faithful presence of God in the midst of an otherwise unforeseeable future.**

In Christ’s Service Together,

Jack  
Lead Pastor  
Bethany Northeast

Jack Brace  
3841 NE 123rd St.  
Seattle, WA 98125

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Preferences](#)