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27 December 2009

Leadership Team
Members of IBC Cologne

Dear Church Members;

With this letter Claire and I officially announce our resignation as pastor of the church to become effective no later than December 31, 2010, and immediately upon the church calling a new pastor, prior to that date.

The will of God has taken me over the past fifty plus years in many new directions with exciting opportunities for ministry. From the beginning in July 2008, we have interpreted God's calling to the IBC church in Cologne as a ministry to help the church reestablish itself to where it would be able to call a younger pastor with more time and energy to serve the church. For several weeks both Claire and I have felt a growing conviction that the time for us to step aside from the church was rapidly approaching. During this time we have been in close consultation with numerous friends and family members back home, as well as the leadership of the IBC. Increasingly the Lord has made it clear to us that it is His timing for us to move into the next phase of ministry beyond pastoring a church. Thus we submit our resignation from the church as pastor.

For over three decades God has burdened me with a deep conviction that ministry during my retirement years should center on a writing ministry both at a technical scholarly level and at a popular religious level. The writing contracts with Smyth-Helwys Publishers in the US and writing/editorial commitments to Christ To The World Ministries will become the primary focus of ministry, along with the development of the massive commentary on the New Testament, titled Biblical Insights, at cranfordville.com.

We stand ready to help the church make the transition to a new pastor, to whatever extent the church desires our assistance. We believe that God already has a new pastor in mind for the church.

Our prayers will always be for God's blessings upon this church as it remains faithful to God's Word. We are profoundly grateful for the ministry here in the church.

Sincerely yours,

 



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