

Dear Members of United Evangelical Church,

Pastor Rasche has submitted to the Congregation a letter informing us that he is retiring. His last Sunday with us will be December 29, 1974 and he will preach his farewell sermon on that day. His letter of retirement is as follows:

OCTOBER 6, 1974

TO THE MEMBERS OF UNITED CHURCH CONGREGATION:

AFTER DUE AND CONSIDERED THOUGHT ON THE MATTER, MRS. RASCHE AND I DESIRE TO INFORM THE CONGREGATION THAT WE WILL TAKE OUR RETIREMENT AT THE END OF THE YEAR 1974, AND HEREWITH PRESENT TO THE CONGREGATION THE REQUIRED 3 MONTHS NOTICE OF THIS ACTION, OUR LAST SUNDAY HERE BEING DECEMBER 29, 1974.

SINCERELY,

(Signed) PAUL A. RASCHE.

Pastor Rasche feels that at age 65 he must have responsibilities less heavy than those a large congregation entails. Having been closely involved with the affairs of the Church, I can assure you that being Pastor of a large congregation is not an easy task. A farewell reception is being planned for Pastor and Mrs. Rasche and the date will be announced.

Your Church Council met in Special Session on Tuesday, October 8, 1974 to begin seeking a replacement for Pastor Rasche as Senior Pastor. I report to you as follows:

1. Associate Pastor Mary Ellen Kitchen has asked not to be considered as Senior Pastor. She wishes to continue to serve us as Associate Pastor.
2. Associate Pastor Kitchen has assured us that if we have not obtained a Senior Pastor ~~by December 29th~~ by December 29th, she will serve us as pastor for a period of time. She has recommended (and we have approved) that if the period of time is too lengthy (more than approximately 2 months), we obtain the services of an Interim Senior Pastor. He would serve (probably on a part-time basis) until our new Senior Pastor assumed his duties.
3. The Church Council has met with the Rev. Carroll E. Kann, Area Conference Minister and he has promised to have the first candidate dossiers in our hands in about 2 weeks.
4. Pastor Kitchen will begin teaching the Senior Confirmation Class at a time ~~by consultation~~ set by consultation between the two pastors and the church council. That time will be determined solely by the best interests of the students. Mrs. May Getz will begin teaching the Junior Class at the same time. Mrs. Getz is experienced and very capable. She taught the Junior Class before Associate Pastor Kitchen came with us. We owe her our thanks for her willingness to serve.
5. Your Church Council will meet again in Special Session on October 15th.

With the approval of the Church Council, I have appointed a Pastoral Search Committee whose membership will be:

- a. The Church Council as a whole.
- b. The Presidents of the church activities groups: ~~These are:~~ *I will call each of you personally.*
- c. Four persons from the congregation at large. These are: Miss Carol Weidel, Miss Bertha Will, Mr. Edward Davis and Mr. Jim Stinchcomb.

We ~~whaaaa~~^{are} seeking as Senior Pastor a man not more than 40 years of age. We are seeking a man with a successful pastoral experience. We are seeking a man whose theology is akin to our own and a man with a strong inclination for pastoral work on a person to person basis.

If you have any suggestions or questions, please give them to any member of the Church Council. If you prefer, you can write them and drop them either in the collection plate or in the poor boxes. Your suggestions will be heeded and your questions will be answered either personally or in the Church Bulletin. We will continue to keep you informed. Please remember us and your Church in your prayers.

On your behalf, I extend to Pastor and Mrs. Rasche our sincere best wishes for their future happiness in their retirement. Let us remember them in our prayers.

Respectfully,

George A. Tuerk, Jr.
Church Council President.