

Dear Harvest leadership,

After many months of prayerfully seeking the Lord, processing with Camille and our children, and seeking counsel from a variety of people, I have decided to resign my position as a pastor at Harvest Bible Chapel as I feel called to a new season of ministry elsewhere.

This decision has been tearfully hard because of my love for the people of Harvest. It has been an incredible honor to be a pastor at Harvest for 14 years, including the last 9 years as the Campus Pastor in Aurora. We started as a group of 40 people in a living room. Never would I have known about all that God would do — from our first service, to a new church home, to countless lives changed, and more. *“This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes”* (Psalm 118:23). My heart is filled with joy and gratitude. From the beginning our campus was built on the Lord, not on me. I am only an unworthy servant, I have only done what is my duty (Luke 17:10). I am confident the Lord has good plans for this campus to continue to shine the Light in the City of Lights beyond my leadership.

Harvest has been good to my family and me. Each of our three kids have come to faith, been baptized, and grown spiritually through Harvest Christian Academy, Harvest Kids, Harvest Students, Camp Harvest, and the investment of countless people at Harvest. Our marriage has been strengthened through Harvest and we have been blessed by so many life-giving relationships. I have grown in my personal sanctification as a follower of Christ and as a pastor. I am certainly not the same person I was when I arrived at Harvest in 2005.

I am especially thankful for all the amazing people of the Aurora Campus. We have gone beyond doing ministry together to sharing our very lives with one another as a family. I feel loved and appreciated. The brotherhood of our Campus Pastors is extremely special and has spurred me on to be a better person and pastor. I am grateful for the support, care, and encouragement of our elders.

I was encouraged by the recent Vision Summit and the unity of our Elders, Church Leadership Team, and Campus Pastors talking through opportunities, challenges, and the future direction of Harvest. The leadership is prayer-filled and seeking to glorify the Lord. I firmly believe that God is actively working and that fruitful days of healthy ministry are ahead.

I find great comfort in this transition from Colossians 1:17-18, *“And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church.”*

Our family will be forever grateful for our years at Harvest and will cherish the many relationships and memories. We will continue to pray and cheer for God’s best for Harvest.

Sincerely,

Craig Steiner