

The background of the entire page is a faded, light blue-tinted photograph of a church. The church has a prominent white steeple with a cross on top, rising from a red brick structure. The main body of the church features a portico with white columns. The scene is set outdoors with some greenery visible at the bottom.

Pastor

Search

Committee

*Prayer  
Guide*

Dear Newington Family,

On November 1, 2021, your Pastor Search Committee will start the search phase of the pastor search process. As your Pastor Search Committee, we believe this is a time of great importance in our church's history. We have been given the opportunity to seek God's face and ask for His wisdom in determining whom He has called to be the next pastor of Newington Baptist Church.

We thank you for trusting our leadership. This is a task that we do not take lightly. We know we need supernatural discernment as we journey through this process and are asking you to join us as we pray through this season of preparing for our next pastor and his family. James 5:16 states,

*"The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much." With this in mind, we need to be right with God and come to Him with a clean conscience so that our prayers are not hindered.*

We are seeking God's will for Newington Baptist Church. We covet your prayers during this season of transition and change. For that reason, we ask that you utilize this prayer guide to cover the Pastor Search Committee, the congregation, and the future pastor of our church. We want to build unity and have a clear knowledge of God's will for our future pastor.

Listed below are the names of the Pastor Search Committee. We ask that you please pray diligently for each member.

Thank you for praying as we seek wisdom and discernment of God's will.

Pastor Search Committee:

Gerald German, Chairman

Brenda Armistead

James King

Lillian Cox

Bob Hinson

Douglas Hull

Juli Semanski

Victoria King

*Pray  
for the  
Pastor  
Search  
Committee*

## Day 1

### Scripture Reading

*If I had cherished sin in my heart,  
the Lord would not have listened;*

Psalm 66:18

*"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.*

John 15:5

*Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit,*

Ephesians 5:18

### Pray

Pray for deep spiritual cleansing and the fullness of the Holy Spirit in each committee member. Pray this for each member by name: Gerald, Brenda, Lillian, Bob, Doug, James, Juli, Victoria

## Day 2

### Scripture Reading

*For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives,*

Colossians 1:9

### Pray

Pray for God to fill the chairman, Gerald German, with knowledge of His will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding and for strength.

## Day 3

### Scripture Reading

*Do two walk together*

*unless they have agreed to do so?*

Amos 3:3

*“Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.*

Matthew 18:19

*Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.*

Ephesians 4:3

### Pray

Pray for powerful unity and oneness in spirit within the committee.

## Day 4

### Scripture Reading

*If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.*

James 1:5

*“For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways,”*

*declares the LORD.*

*“As the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

Isaiah 55:8-9

### Pray

Pray for God’s clear direction in how resumes are examined, and interviews conducted. Ask God to bring the right person to the attention of the committee.



## Day 5

### Scripture Reading

*these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit.*

*The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit. The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments, for,*

*"Who has known the mind of the Lord  
so as to instruct him?"*

*But we have the mind of Christ.*

1 Corinthians 2:10-16

### Pray

Pray for the Search Committee to have God's wisdom in all the questions and information they share with the prospective pastor. Spirit-led thoroughness is essential.

## Day 6

### Scripture Reading

*If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.*

James 1:5-6

### Pray

Pray for the committee to have wisdom and discernment as to the unique characteristics and traits most needed for our church in a pastor.

## **Day 7**

### **Scripture Reading**

*Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.*

Ephesians 5:17

### **Pray**

Pray for the committee to have no timetable but God's. They must be determined to find God's perfect will in God's perfect time.

## Day 8

### Scripture Reading

*Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.*

Ephesians 6:10-12

### Pray

Pray for the prevention of Satan's influence in misleading or rushing the search committee (One of Satan's tactics is deception). Pray for a powerful hedge of protection around the committee and their families.

## Day 9

### Scripture Reading

*I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.*

1 Corinthians 1:10

*When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.*

Acts 2:1

### Pray

Pray for God's guidance in how the future pastor is presented to the church. Pray that there would be no division among the Pastor Search Committee or the congregation – only unity.

## Day 10

### Scripture Reading

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.*

*In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:*

*Who, being in very nature God,*

*did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;*

*rather, he made himself nothing*

*by taking the very nature of a servant,*

*being made in human likeness.*

*And being found in appearance as a man,*

*he humbled himself*

*by becoming obedient to death—*

*even death on a cross!*

*Therefore God exalted him to the highest place*

*and gave him the name that is above every name,*

*that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,*

*in heaven and on earth and under the earth,*

*and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,*

*to the glory of God the Father.*

Philippians 2:3-11

### Pray

Pray that the Pastor Search Committee will seek God's will for the church above their own desires.

*Pray  
for the  
Congregation*

## Day 11

### Scripture Reading

*You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.*

Jeremiah 29:13

*Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.*

James 4:8

### Pray

Pray the pastor search period will be a time the church learns to seek God Himself more than just a new pastor. "Lord, teach us to draw closer to Jesus and trust Him as the true head of the church and not in man."



## Day 12

### Scripture Reading

*If I had cherished sin in my heart,  
the Lord would not have listened;*

Psalm 66:18

*Search me, God, and know my heart;  
test me and know my anxious thoughts.  
See if there is any offensive way in me,  
and lead me in the way everlasting.*

Psalm 139:23-24

### Pray

Pray for a powerful move of congregational cleansing and renewal. "Father, please cause this to be a time of deep cleansing and renewal in our church. May we always be the church You have called us to be. It is all about You and not us."

## Day 13

### Scripture Reading

*"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:*

*These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands. I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.*

*Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first.*

Revelation 2:1-4

*I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other!*

Revelation 3:15

### Pray

Pray for strong consistency and focus on the present ministry of the church. Pray for our Staff, Deacons, Committees, Board of Directors, and our Interim Pastor selection by the Deacons and his ministry at Newington Baptist Church. Protect us from any spirit of being lukewarm or losing our first love. Protect us from the evil one and remind us that we serve Jesus, not a pastor."

## Day 14

### Scripture Reading

*"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.*

John 13:34

*that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.*

John 17:21

### Pray

Pray for a miraculous sense of love and unity among all members of the church. "Help us surrender all bitterness, division, and anger within our church family. Lord, empower us to love one another with a patient, forgiving love."

## Day 15

### Scripture Reading

*that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.*

John 17:21

*I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.*

1 Corinthians 1:10

### Pray

Pray for great unity in calling the new pastor. "Lord, help us to receive him and his family with deep love and renewed commitment. Grant us a powerful sense of revival and spiritual awakening as we move into the future." Pray for grace, guidance, and strength for the church from which our new pastor comes.

## Day 16

### Scripture Reading

*As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*

Ephesians 4:1-6

### Pray

Pray that we are prepared to move our mission forward and embrace a new day of ministry. "Lord, we understand that a new pastor always means adjustments. Prepare us to be willing to change and to grow with graciousness and unity so we can be the church You have called us to be."

## Day 17

### Scripture Reading

*We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.*

Hebrews 6:12

### Pray

Pray that we will patiently await God's timing and settle for nothing less than His perfect will. Ask God for His mercy in giving us a true man of God and a great leader.

## Day 18

### Scripture Reading

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.*

*In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:*

*Who, being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God something to be used  
to his own advantage;  
rather, he made himself nothing  
by taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.  
And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
by becoming obedient to death—  
even death on a cross!  
Therefore God exalted him to the highest place  
and gave him the name that is above every name,  
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.*

Philippians 2:3-11

### Pray

Pray that all the church members will set aside individual expectations for the new pastor and decide in unity who God is calling to lead Newington Baptist Church to be the church God has called us to be.

## Day 19

### Scripture Reading

*See, the former things have taken place,  
and new things I declare;  
before they spring into being  
I announce them to you."*

Isaiah 42:9

### Pray

Some churches struggle with wanting a pastor who is like their previous pastor. Other's desire someone who is just the opposite? Pray that all would be receptive to God's doing a new thing in the congregation and accept His perfect will above our own desires.



*Pray  
for the  
Next Pastor*

## Day 20

### Scripture Reading

*Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.*

Hebrews 13:17

### Pray

Pray that the church would trust the Pastor Search Committee through the process of finding a new pastor. Pray that the congregation would trust that the Pastor Search Committee is being led by the Spirit as they search for the man God is bringing to Newington Baptist Church and there would be no division.

## Day 21

### Scripture Reading

*In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.*

2 Timothy 4:1-5

### Pray

Pray that God would increase our next pastor's passion for preaching the Word of God and he would boldly proclaim the truth.

## Day 22

### Scripture Reading

*I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

*It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.*

*And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.*

Philippians 1:3-11

### Pray

Pray that God would give our next pastor a love for our church and the strength to leave his current position. Pray that God would make His will known to him and his family.

## Day 23

### Scripture Reading

*For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.*

Colossians 1:9-12

### Pray

Pray for our next pastor's family. Of course, the new pastor may be married or single may have children or not. God knows all of that. Pray that God, who knows who they are, would strengthen and guide the new pastor's family as they are led toward ministry at Newington Baptist Church. Give them peace in knowing God's will.

## Day 24

### Scripture Reading

*Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.*

Romans 12:9-13

### Pray

Pray that God would prepare our pastor to always have great zeal and passion for serving the Lord in his ministry. Pray for God's strength in his weakness and may he be faithful in prayer.

## Day 25

### Scripture Reading

*Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

Romans 12:1-2

*In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.*

Ephesians 6:16

### Pray

Pray for the future pastor and his family to have absolute certainty in their sense of call to our church. He must know God's direction. Pray also for protection from the evil one and our future pastor and his family.

## Day 26

### Scripture Reading

*But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

### Pray

Pray for God's strength and guidance in the pastor's former church. Pray that those with whom he is currently ministering would trust God's plan for his servant in leading him to a new location of ministry



## Day 27

### Scripture Reading

*He who forms the mountains,  
who creates the wind,  
and who reveals His thoughts to mankind,  
who turns dawn to darkness,  
and treads on the heights of the earth—  
the Lord God Almighty is his name.*

Amos 4:13

### Pray

Pray that the new pastor will have a clear vision for how to minister to the people of Newington Baptist Church and the surrounding community. Pray that many will come to know Jesus through our church.

## Day 28

### Scripture Reading

*Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?"*

*"Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well."*

Luke 12:22-31

### Pray

Pray that the new pastor and his family will be able to smoothly transition to our church. This would include the needs of his wife and children in making new friends. Also involved would be physical needs such as housing, schooling, etc. that must be settled upon moving to a new area. Pray that they will feel welcome and at home with us.

## Day 29

### Scripture Reading

*How good and pleasant it is  
when God's people live together in unity!  
It is like precious oil poured on the head,  
running down on the beard,  
running down on Aaron's beard,  
down on the collar of his robe.  
It is as if the dew of Hermon  
were falling on Mount Zion.  
For there the LORD bestows his blessing,  
even life forevermore.*

Psalm 133

### Pray

Pray that the new pastor would be able to work effectively with the other church staff and deacons that are already serving at Newington Baptist Church.

## Day 30

### Scripture Reading

*Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."*

Joshua 1:8-9

### Pray

Pray that God would protect the new pastor's heart as he prepares to leave his current ministry and move to a new ministry. Pray that the stresses of moving, meeting new people, maintaining relationships, etc. would not interfere with his need to continually develop his relationship with God. Pray that God would give him and his family peace knowing they are in God's will.

## Day 31

### Scripture Reading

*Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*

*Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

Colossians 3:12-17

### Pray

Above all, pray that God's will would be done through the entire process of finding a new pastor for Newington Baptist Church. Pray that the Holy Spirit will give everyone involved in this process wisdom, peace, and excitement for a new day. Pray that God will show us whom He is calling to Newington Baptist Church.