



“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens...” Ecc. 3:1

Dear Gloria Dei Family,

As I sit down to write this letter with this important news to share with you all, these familiar words from scripture ring so true. A new season is emerging for me, as well as for you, dear Gloria Dei family. Twelve years ago, you called Doug as your Senior Pastor. Two and a half years later you called me as Associate Pastor. This “season” has been a gift of a lifetime on so many levels. It has been a time of rootedness, creativity, and growth. **I am eternally grateful to you, Gloria Dei!**

For your kindness extended to our family. Our children have grown into young adults, just as so many of your children have, with the Gloria Dei family caring for, praying for and loving them.

For taking the leap and calling me as your Associate Pastor. I am so thankful for the GDLC Call Committee and their intentional, thorough, and thoughtful work through that process.

For allowing me to be your pastor, friend, and fellow traveler on this spiritual path of life. This body of Christ is so vibrant and strong because of each one of you. I have cherished working with our amazing staff, every single one. We have laughed, prayed, shared stories, and wrestled together with how to best serve God and the world. I have learned so much from each one of you.

Fifteen years ago, before this season began, I had a dream. As often happens when children start school, new friendships are formed. One of my new friends and I started walking and talking every morning. We both found so much joy through this, both of us in “helping” professions, we dreamed of offering this gift to others. Helping people connect body, mind, and spirit for happier, wholistic living. Walk and Talk.

Fast forward to now. Though long-dormant, the dream remains. And it is the “season” for me to make this dream a reality. With Covid-19 impacting so many, offering mental health and healing services is more important than ever. So, after much discernment, prayer and conversation with Doug and my spiritual director, I’ve realized my heart doesn’t work well in two places. I’m an “all in” type of operator.

So, I am officially resigning from Gloria Dei as your Associate Pastor, effective February 28, 2021 to start this new ministry and adventure: Walk and Talk Coaching, www.walktalkcoach.co

In conversation with our Bishop, I will go “on leave from call” March 1, 2021. I covet your prayers for me and for Doug, whose generosity, love, and kindness are a gift to so many, especially me. Remember, Pastor Doug was here for almost three years solo, and our fabulous Gloria Dei staff now includes two full time rostered deacons, a quarter time visitation pastor, along with a host of professionals and lay leaders, giving a depth and strength to this congregation that is unique. Gloria Dei is in good hands.

And this is most certainly true. God continues God’s greatest joy... to create! This new “season” for Gloria Dei is a wonderful opportunity to vision and dream into the future new and creative ways to be God’s growing family!

I welcome your calls, texts, and emails. I will be setting up times in the gathering space, wearing a mask, welcoming an in-person time to talk and pray together. I love you *all*. Through every “season” I remain utterly, humbly grateful to God and to God’s people.

God’s Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Molly Knutson-Keller