

## **REV. LINDA PIGOTT**

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May 5, 2019

Rev. Sonny Gallman, Pastor  
Rev. Jim Shoopman, Deacon Chair  
Central Baptist Church  
152 Fairview Avenue  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Dear Rev. Gallman & Rev. Shoopman:

This letter is my official notification to you and to the church that my last day of work at Central Baptist Church will be May 31, 2019. After more than 26 years of active employment in ministry at Central and over 45 years as a participant/member of the church I believe that it is now time for me to move into retirement.

I choose this next step, believing strongly in the function of grandparent, desiring to be available for my children as needed in their next stage of life, parenting. This would be nearly impossible to do due to their location and my current work commitments if I continued in my present position. I believe that God is leading me to this next phase of life so that I can be available as needed.

I leave with feelings of deep gratitude for the opportunities and nurturing that I have received here at Central. I am especially grateful for the ministry received by my family from this community of faith as we walked through my husband's passing 4½ years ago and his prior difficult health circumstances. I am also enormously grateful for the encouragement and educational experiences I have been afforded in discovering and developing my skills as a woman in ministry. I especially realize that nothing we may have achieved here due to my service was done alone and I delight in knowing that I have had the privilege of serving alongside so many who remain committed to the cause of Christ and His Kingdom. I pray that our friendships will continue, even though I no longer serve in this place.

I have already begun the temporary transition of some of my responsibilities to various laity so that the work can continue unhindered while the church decides about next steps for staffing; I will work diligently in the next few weeks to ensure that our prior work together is not wasted. I feel optimistic about the future of Central Baptist! This is an exciting time to be serving the church and I leave here confident that this congregation is up to the tasks God has set before her. Please accept my retirement request knowing that I leave with a profound sense of gratitude to each of you and to God.

Sincerely,

Rev. Linda Pigott

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