

PastorCare

West Michigan
Helping Pastors Soar

April, 2012

From The Heart!

Founding Pastor George and Deborah Davis launched *From The Heart Church* in Grand Rapids, MI with their first worship service on November 13, 2011. It was a time of great celebration, after two years of walking with George and Deb, coaching and encouraging them through a process of healing and restoration from the pain and suffering of a forced exit as the pastor of another church. Sue and I were honored to share in this special occasion with them. It was a wonderful day of rejoicing and celebration. We are delighted to introduce you to our friends, Rev. George and Deborah Davis.



Ministry to pastors and families is all about relationships. I meet them where they are in the midst of their pain and suffering. My confidential coaching involves listening, loving, caring, understanding, hugging, crying, laughing, encouraging, praying, affirming, and celebrating. In the healing and restoring process it is so important for pastors to begin to dream again. One of my goals was to help George believe he deserved God's best and challenging him not to settle as he pursued what was next in his life and ministry. It became very clear that George needed to be in a ministry where he had the freedom to use his gifts for music and worship leading, as well as his gifts for preaching the Word of God.



Pastor George wrote a letter in March 2012, expressing his gratitude for our ministry with PastorCare.

It was mid May and I was experiencing one of my loneliest seasons of ministry. What happened? Who would listen? Who would understand? Then the phone rang. On the other was a calm reassuring voice. It was John Smith, Director of PastorCare. He stated that I didn't know him, but he had heard about my situation, another broken relationship between a pastor and his flock. His sincerity and godly spirit allowed me to trust him enough to set up a meeting. The following week we met for the first time. John Smith in person was even more compassionate than the individual I had spoken with on the phone. He assured me he simply wanted to listen and aid in my healing process if he could.

Our first meeting was probably 2.5hrs. It was long enough for my wife to ask, who is this John Smith? I simply said he was someone who had heard about our situation and understood everything we were going through. That one meeting has lead to a 2 plus year relationship of counsel and accountability.

What Have I received from PastorCare? The ministry through its compassion, patience and understanding brought comfort. I realized throughout our meetings that I wasn't alone. Here were people who genuinely cared and could help with the pain and abandonment by simply listening and sharing their story.

Secondly, the ministry through prayer and self evaluation helped me identify my weakness and strength. Through coaching and deep soul searching I've gained more confidence in who God has created me to be. Think of all the ministers who serve churches not fully operating in the area of giftedness God has designed for them. Through the efforts and guidance of PastorCare, I've been liberated.

Thirdly, PastorCare reemphasized the importance of waiting on God. Through numerous conversations with John Smith I was encouraged and mandated to wait on God. I've learned through this process that every door that opens is not necessarily one you should walk through.

I praise God for PastorCare and their willingness to walk with those who have been wounded in ministry. Most would think it's only for pastors, but my testimony is that my entire family received healing from the ministry. Without the Spirit's leading and the aid of PastorCare I would be another wounded pastor set out to pasture. But through their compassion, resources and efforts I now pastor a new church start up in Western Michigan. Praise God!!! Weeping endures for a night but joy comes in the morning. More than ever I can say, in His time He does make all things beautiful, in His time. PastorCare is truly a ministry that lives up to its name.

*From the Heart,
Pastor George Davis*

My wife Sue and I praise God for Pastor George and Deborah Davis!

In the grip of His grace!

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