



Life WITH God

Our message today,

*What is Possessing You?*

Scripture reading is Mark 5:1-20.

Let's worship The Lord together! Our live service is at 9 am in the Sanctuary located at 463 South Stage Coach Lane in Fallbrook and/or online at [sonrisefallbrook.com](https://sonrisefallbrook.com) then click "service".

Exciting news and Congregational Meeting on September 7 after service...



## SonRise Christian Fellowship

### Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On behalf of the Pastoral Selection Committee and the Elders, we are excited to share some big news with you. After months of prayer, conversation, and careful discernment, we're unanimously recommending Reverend Banning Cantarini to be our next Senior Pastor.

Now, we know this process has felt long; it's been seven, almost eight months. We want to acknowledge that. We want to be clear: this was not delay for the sake of delay. From the start, we were not just trying to "fill a spot." We were trying to truly seek God's will for the future of our church. That meant slowing down, asking the big questions: Who are we as a church family? Who is God calling us to be? What matters most for our ministry in the years ahead?

Those are not quick questions, and we think it was important that we gave them the time and prayer they deserved. We looked back to honor the legacy that got us here, while also looking forward to where God may be leading us.

You (the congregation of SonRise Christian Fellowship) all were part of this every step of the way. You prayed with us. You filled out surveys. You pulled us aside for conversations. You sent emails. Your voices came through loud and clear: Family Ministry is at the very heart of our church's future.

That's something Pastor Banning has embraced wholeheartedly. In every conversation, in every interview, his vision has been consistent; he sees a church that reaches outward into the community but also stays rooted in who we have always been. A vision that challenges us to move forward, while also honoring where we have come from.

We also believe something else has become clear through this process—many of us have sensed it for a while—that God has placed Pastor Banning here, under the mentorship of Pastor Jerome and Pastor Greg, for such a time as this. For that, we say: **Thank you, God!**

So, here's what comes next:

- On **Sunday, September 7**, Pastor Banning will be preaching in our worship service.
- Right after that service, we will hold a congregational meeting to vote on whether to officially call him as our new Senior Pastor.
- There will be a handout giving specifics about how to vote in the narthex for anyone who would like more details about that vote.
- If you have any questions or points for discussion you'd like to raise about this nomination or the process, please feel free to email us.

One quick note: Only members can vote in that meeting. If you're not yet a member but would like to be, we will be holding a **New Members Class on Saturday, September 6**—the day before the vote.

In the meantime, we want to invite all of us to keep praying for our church. Pray over this decision. Ask God for guidance. Most of all, let's pray for unity; that we would move forward together as one body, following where God is leading us next.

## **Our Prayer for the Congregation:**

Gracious and Almighty God,

We thank You for guiding our church through this season of discernment. You have walked with us in every conversation, every prayer, and every step of this process. We give You thanks for the gift of Pastor Banning, his heart for Your Word, his passion for Your people, and his vision for the future of this congregation.

Lord, we thank You for the care and patience You have given us during this time of reflection. You have helped us to remember who we are, to honor where we have been, and to dream of where You are leading us. Unite us in Your Spirit as we prepare to make this important decision together.

We lift up Pastor Jerome with gratitude for his years of faithful service, his leadership, and the love he has poured into this church. As he enters into retirement, bless him with rest, joy, and new opportunities to serve in ways that bring him life. We give thanks that he will remain part of this congregation, continuing to share his wisdom and walk with us as a beloved brother in Christ.

Bless Pastor Banning, Pastor Jerome, and Pastor Greg in this time of transition, and bless our church that we may be a light in this community and a faithful witness to Your Kingdom.

We entrust all these things to You, in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.