

October 25, 2017



Bacon Heights Baptist Church  
5110 54<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lubbock, TX 79414

Dear Friends,

Twelve years ago Judy and I were members of Bacon Heights and I was out of ministry, selling medical equipment, and miserable. You loved and transitioned me back into ministry, an act of love we will never forget. It has been my honor, privilege, joy and delight to have served with you these nearly twelve years as your Executive Pastor, Interim Pastor and later also as the Senior Adult Pastor.

Judy and I now recognize the timing and need for another transition, one that will be beneficial for both the Bacon Heights and the Jim Gerlt families. Therefore, with a mixture of sadness and excitement, I announce my retirement from Bacon Heights Baptist Church to become effective no later than April 1, 2018.

When you called me to become Executive Pastor, Bacon Heights was looking to relocate and needed a strong Chief Operating Officer. The need still existed when we voted to remain here but enter into multi-phased construction. Since we now realize the ending of construction is not far away, the needs of the church are changing and so are the staffing needs. Pastor Jason has developed a restructuring plan for our staff, one which he asked me to help craft and one which I wholeheartedly support.

The Lord has enabled us to purchase a home and acreage in Yukon, Oklahoma, which is located half way between our son and younger daughter, as well as 9 of our 12 grandchildren. This is the excitement part of our retirement announcement. The sad part is leaving you and Lubbock. One does not easily detach from such a loving church, friends, and a community that allowed me to serve on the City Council. You will always be a big part of our story and memories.

May God richly bless Bacon Heights Baptist Church as you restructure, as you serve, and as you reach out to make the best years to still be ahead of you.

Jim (and Judy) Gerlt

**JIM GERLT**  
EXECUTIVE/SENIOR  
ADULT PASTOR

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