

IMPORTANT NEWS FROM NICK

VALLEY PASTORAL STAFF UPDATE - MARCH 25, 2015



FROM NICK MADSEN...

My Dear Church Family,

Your love and support over these past five years have been an absolute blessing in my life. As all of you know, God has placed a deep desire in me to serve Him by teaching, mentoring, and helping kids grow closer to Jesus. Since graduation from the University of Northwestern, God has made this desire even stronger, and I feel that it's time for me to start seeking fulltime ministry.

My part-time work with Valley has been wonderful, but I want to devote all of my energy to youth ministry. Unfortunately, since Valley doesn't have a fulltime position available right now, I need to find a church or ministry that does. I wish that wasn't the case, but it is.

There is no question that God has used Valley to help me grow in my faith and to prepare me for ministry. And now, I'm sure that he will open the right door for the next chapter of my ministry journey.

I really want to express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you. I'm extremely thankful to the Lord for every one of you and your willingness to share your kids with me. I love them all as if they were my own. There isn't a thing that I wouldn't do to help and encourage them.

I want all of you to know how much I love you, and that I will do my best to keep in touch and be available to you and your kids even when I'm serving elsewhere. I'm planning to continue to serve at Valley through the end of July 2015 unless God opens another door before then.

So thank you, again, for all that you have done for me, for the blessing of allowing your kids to be part of my life, and for being my church family. Please pray for me to be ready and open for whatever God has in store for me. I know JJ Miller and I can count on you as we work together to help our kids make a healthy and positive transition over the next four months.

Your brother in Christ,
Nick Madsen



FROM PASTOR DAVE...

Hello Valley Friends,

I'm sure you'll understand how I feel when I say that the thought of Nick Madsen moving on to do ministry somewhere else is bittersweet. It's hard to think of him leaving the Valley nest, but it's exciting to think of him spreading his wings into new skies of opportunity.

Nick is a peach of a guy. He's a hard-working, big-hearted, faithful and loving minister. Nothing will make me happier than to see him move beyond part-time ministry. If we were in a position to offer such an opportunity, we would! But since we're not able to do so, I want him to find a ministry opportunity where he will be able to invest every bit of his time and strength into the people and work he loves the most.

The first time I heard Nick's name, it was in a prayer request for him to get closer to God. God answered those prayers and so much more! How amazing it is to see today, some six years later, how God has called and equipped Nick for youth ministry. Now, Nick is answering the prayers of other parents by helping their young people get closer to God. God has been good to Nick and to Valley, and we can all count on God's goodness to continue in the days ahead.

Please join me in praying for Nick as he asks God to direct him to the right place for the next chapter of his ministry. And let's all bless Nick and our church youth by praying and working for a smooth transition in the months ahead. As Valley's lead pastor, please know that I'll be doing everything I can to help and support Nick through this important time.

Your Brother & Servant,
Dave Burkum