

Pastor Installation Service Remarks—August 5, 2018

(Recognize Bro. Billy's family)

ASK—What is a Pastor Installation Service? If you are a member of MHBC, this special service may be “new” to you, when you stop to realize that this is only the second pastor installation service at Muldraugh Hill in the last **38 years**. An installation service for a pastor is a special church service for a newly appointed minister. It is an occasion to recognize the calling of the pastor, to acknowledge his responsibilities and duties, and to remind the congregation of our responsibilities and our duty to follow our new pastor's lead.

Paul tells us in **1 Timothy 3:1-7” (HCSB)** about the responsibilities of a Pastor. —Paul says:

1 This saying is trustworthy: “If anyone aspires to be an overseer, he desires a noble work.”

(Most New Testament scholars believe the word “**Overseers**” refers to “**Pastor**”, as Paul then switches gears and talks about the responsibilities of a deacon in the verses following these.)

2 An overseer, therefore, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, self-controlled, sensible, respectable, hospitable, an able teacher, 3 not addicted to wine, not a bully but gentle, not quarrelsome, not greedy— 4 one who manages his own household competently, having his children under control with all dignity. 5 (If anyone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of God's church?) 6 He must not be a new convert, or he might become conceited and fall into the condemnation of the Devil. 7 Furthermore, he must have a good reputation among outsiders, so that he does not fall into disgrace and the Devil's trap.

As a pastor search committee we compiled the many duties of a pastor, but also found that there are responsibilities that we as a church have to our pastor. We often think of our pastor's responsibilities to us, but we as church members sometime forget that we have responsibilities to our pastor as well. You see—it works two ways. God expects us to hold up our end of the bargain too.

Our Pastor Search Committee, as representatives of our church, entered into a covenant with Bro. Billy that we would support him and that we would pray for him as our new pastor. We now want to take time as a church this morning, to allow you as church members to covenant with us, before God, to support our new pastor as he covenants with God to perform his duties as pastor of Muldraugh Hill Baptist Church.

But before we do, we have a special guest of Bro. Billy's with us this morning that we want to have come and share a few words with us. Please welcome pastor **Rusty Ellison**, the current “**Transitional Pastor**” of **Campbellville Baptist Church** (that's big church talk for “interim pastor” to us).