

John MacArthur's Successor Named: Grace Community Church Announces New Senior Pastor

A new chapter is beginning at Grace Community Church as the congregation once led by the late John MacArthur has officially named its next senior pastor.

Grace Community Church elders unanimously decided that Nathan Busenitz would take over as senior pastor on Thursday, Aug. 20. The timing of the decision carries particular significance. The announcement was made on the one-year anniversary of MacArthur's memorial service, marking a major transition for a congregation shaped by his ministry for more than half a century.

MacArthur served as pastor of Grace Community Church for 56 years. During that time, his uncompromising approach to Scripture and verse-by-verse biblical teaching became hallmarks of his ministry.

In announcing Busenitz's appointment, the elders made it clear they have no intention of abandoning those convictions.

"Pastor John's ministry was marked by an uncompromising commitment to the lordship of Christ and the authority of His Word. Our elders remain steadfast in holding to those same priorities," Grace Community Church stated.

The decision did not come overnight. According to the church, the elders spent the months following MacArthur's death seeking God's direction through prayer and careful consideration before selecting Busenitz.

The elders said their decision reflected their confidence in God's providence and their belief that God had prepared

Busenitz for this particular season.



To order Jonathan Cahn's new book, *The Altar of Pergamon*, visit .

And Busenitz is no stranger to Grace Community Church.

He grew up in the congregation and later studied at The Master's University and The Master's Seminary. While completing his education, Busenitz served as a Bible study shepherd in Crossroads, the church's college ministry, before becoming a co-pastor in its Cornerstone Fellowship Group.

His connection to MacArthur also became deeply personal and practical. For years, Busenitz worked as MacArthur's personal assistant. He helped MacArthur with editing projects and other responsibilities. Since August 2025, he has acted as Grace Community Church's interim staff pastor.

Outside the congregation, Busenitz has served as executive vice president of The Master's Seminary and as a professor of church history.

For Grace Community Church, this is more than a leadership change. After losing the pastor who shepherded the congregation for 56 years, the church is stepping into a new season while seeking to preserve the biblical convictions that have defined its ministry.

Now, the elders are calling believers to pray.

"We enter this new season of ministry with gratitude to God for His faithfulness in the past and with joyful confidence in His plan for the future," the elders wrote.

That posture is powerful. Ministries may enter new seasons and earthly leaders may change, but the call to faithfully proclaim God's Word does not.

For Grace Community Church, the next chapter has officially begun.

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