

# Revitalization through Pastoral Succession



## *Overview*

After over thirty fruitful years at Glenrock Baptist Church, Pastor Gene Flack recognized the need for revitalization.

Saved later in life, his ministry began in 1992. He shared that the Lord greatly blessed Glenrock Baptist Church during his thirty years of faithful service there. “We had a great time of worship and reaching people for Christ together,” Flack said.

Realizing it was time for him to retire, Flack felt that the Lord was calling him to search for a younger leader to come in. He reached out to the leadership at York Baptist Association (YBA) for guidance during the transition. Mike Wallace, Associational Mission Strategist at YBA, pointed Flack toward Pastor Dave Kiehn at Park Baptist Church, just twenty minutes down the road.

## *Training the Next Generation*

In 2020, Park Baptist began a full-time pastoral residency program, which aims to prepare leaders for future pastoral roles. “I believe it’s the pastor’s job to pour his life into the next generation of pastors,” Kiehn said. The residency is offered in both English and Spanish and currently has five residents receiving mentoring, training, and opportunities for preaching and pastoral care.

Kiehn recommended Alan Patrick, who had completed Park Baptist’s residency program. After praying and conferring with YBA and Flack, the plan would be for Flack to spend a period of time training Patrick before he became the next pastor of Glenrock Baptist. “I was encouraged that he seemed to be a young man that was after God’s heart,” Flack said.

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