



Dear Friends of Indiana Ministries:

September 2022

On behalf of the Indiana Ministries Board of Directors, I would like to inform you that our State Pastor, Doug Talley, has decided to retire on or a little before June 30, 2023. This news surprised and saddened us, as you probably are too, but we know these seasons of time approach sooner or later, and for Doug, that time has come.

In typical Doug fashion, he has kept the best interest of Indiana Ministries in mind and therefore has given us plenty of time to process and develop a succession plan. Over the last few months, the Indiana Ministries Board of Directors has hired and consulted with Slingshot, a ministry search organization with over 20 years of experience and expertise. The Indiana Ministries board wanted to make sure we did a thorough and proper search for our next State Pastor, and Slingshot is helping us make sure that happens.

At our Annual Meeting on October 3 at Madison Park Church of God in Anderson, we will provide some additional details regarding the search process. We will also spend some time celebrating the 14 years Doug has faithfully served all of us connected to Indiana Ministries. Doug has brought clear vision for our state and reminded us of the importance of reaching and growing people for Jesus through a variety of means. He's also intentionally fostered health in our churches around the State of Indiana. And not only has Doug been a fantastic leader, but we know he has been a faithful friend to many of you, which is why we encourage you to join us at the Annual Meeting to express your love and appreciation for Doug and his wife Cindy.

Obviously, with Doug retiring from Indiana Ministries, Cindy has chosen to also retire at the end of this year. To be honest, we are more grief-stricken to lose Cindy than we are Doug (Sorry, Doug, we had to get one more jab in there for old time's sake).

We look forward to seeing all of you at our Annual Meeting. Please continue to pray for Doug and Cindy as they finish strong at Indiana Ministries and step into this new phase of life. We also ask you pray for God to lead the process as He unveils the right person to lead us into the future as our State Pastor. Most of your questions will be answered at the Annual Meeting, but if you have any immediate questions, please feel free to reach out to me through email at skruse@countylinechurch.org.

Thank you for your time. See you soon!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stuart A. Kruse".

In Christ,
Rev. Stuart Kruse
Chairman of the Board
Senior Pastor, County Line Church of God



Hi Friends and Colleagues,

September 2022

Cindy and I have been discussing for at least 18 months when I would retire as State Pastor of Indiana Ministries. This was a decision that was emotionally difficult for us to process since Indiana Ministries has played such an important role in our lives and ministries for over 40 years. But we realized the time to retire from IM was approaching, and we wanted to be proactive so that we could finish strong and well.

I initiated conversation about retirement with the Indiana Ministries Board of Directors in the fall of 2021. They were gracious in expressing that they weren't ready for me to retire, but they also understood Cindy's and my desire to change the pace of our lives and our level of responsibility. A couple of months later I identified the date of June 30, 2023, as the absolute latest date that I intended to continue serving as state pastor. My retirement will begin sooner if my successor can be identified and in place before that date.

One of my biggest concerns in contemplating the timing of my retirement is that the Indiana Ministries Board has enough lead time to work a healthy and thorough succession process. I think you are all aware that I love Indiana Ministries dearly, and I love working with the pastors, church staffs, and congregations in Indiana. I want Indiana Ministries to continue to thrive and be a leader among state ministries for the Church of God. So wisely planning the succession process is extremely important to me.

Earlier this year the Board hired Slingshot, a ministry search firm, to guide the Board in planning and executing the succession process. We've already had several meetings with the team from Slingshot that is working with us. And now it is time for me to announce my upcoming retirement publicly. You'll be hearing more about the search process and timeline in the very near future.

Cindy and I want to thank you for the opportunity of serving as state pastor. It has been a wonderful experience. We have both thoroughly enjoyed my tenure in this role. The Indiana Ministries Board of Directors and staff have been incredible to work with. We've loved connecting with pastors, pastors' spouses, church staffs, church leaders, and congregations. We have been so blessed by your encouragement, support, love, and friendship. These last 14 plus years have been a treasured experience for both of us. Thank you for making it so special. By the way, Cindy will be retiring from Indiana Ministries by the end of 2022 with the actual date being dependent on a smooth office staff transition.

I know that my remaining time at Indiana Ministries will pass quickly. Until a new state pastor is in place, I intend to continue serving and leading in ways that move local congregations towards missional effectiveness and impact and in ways that empower and equip pastors.

Again, thank you for being such incredible ministry partners.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas L. Talley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Dr. Douglas Talley
State Pastor