

Reflections & Hopes

PASTOR MIKE YODER



Progress I'm grateful for during my leadership years at Grace Polaris Church:

- **Clarity and communication of MISSION, VISION, & VALUES**

Progress I'm grateful for...

- **Pattern of “whole counsel of God” preaching, with timely use of thematic and topical sermons**

Progress I'm grateful for...

- **Formation of Executive Elder Committee (EEC) and its complementary role with the College of Elders**

Progress I'm grateful for...

- **Widespread staff unity, intentional staff prayer, and mutual appreciation for diverse roles**

Progress I'm grateful for...

- **Pastoral staff health** — diversity of ages and a record of stable marriages and families

Progress I'm grateful for...

- **Development of a robust training program for future pastoral and ministry leaders**

Progress I'm grateful for...

- **Operational financial health, reduction of church debt and a debt-free \$11M capital campaign**

Progress I'm grateful for...

- **Construction of the Ministry Center, renovation of the Worship Center, and Administrative Office relocation**

Progress I'm grateful for...

- **Navigating Covid and cultural realities without major church fissures**

Progress I'm grateful for...

- **Increased presence of age and ethnic diversity in church gatherings and ministries**

Progress still needed at the end of my leadership years at Grace Polaris Church:

- Lack of sustained numerical growth in the 2010s

Progress still needed...

- Delayed progress in regional church planting and church planter identification

Progress still needed...

- Modest evangelistic fervor or evangelistic confidence among congregation

Progress still needed...

- Ongoing challenges in expanding our reach with those in a vital decade (Ages 15–25)

What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe — as the Lord has assigned to each his task.

I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.

1 Corinthians 3:6

So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.

1 Corinthians 3:7

The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor.

1 Corinthians 3:8

*For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field,
God's building.*

1 Corinthians 3:9