



OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON PASTOR MIKE LWIN

Pastor Mike Lwin pioneered New Hope Leeward in 2003 and has shepherded the church to be a fruitful and expanding ministry in the islands. Many have come to Christ as a result and thousands more have been impacted across the globe. His heart for missions has opened doors for the Gospel and for training leaders in such fields as Japan, Philippines, and Myanmar.

Over the past several years, the pace and burden he carried has led to an emotional strain and surfaced particular abnormalities in his blood, which, if unresolved, could result in serious medical conditions such as heart attack. Because Pastor Mike's health is of utmost priority, he will be taking an extended medical leave in a *Sabbatical* as of February 1st for an undetermined length of time. He will be undergoing tests and medical attention locally and at an exemplary clinic in Seattle for four to six weeks.

In order to provide him with a season of convalescence, Mike Lwin will be stepping down as Senior Pastor effective February 1st. Pastor Mike is not resigning nor has he been fired. He is appreciated and loved, and our hope is to see God's purposes fulfilled in his life and family.

New Hope Leeward's Church Council has invited Pastor Wayne Cordeiro and New Hope Oahu to serve as the overseeing covering. Wayne Cordeiro has been Pastor Mike's spiritual father for many years and will be mentoring Mike through this time of healing. New Hope Leeward was birthed from New Hope O'ahu thirteen years ago. As a result, this season is simply a reunion of our broader church 'ohana.

Following Mike's season of recuperation, he and his family will continue to serve in a ministry role that will allow him to utilize his gifts to the greatest extent while remaining balanced in his personal health.

Everyone who knows Pastor Mike appreciates his passion for the Lord and his commitment to the ministry. This sabbatical will serve as a launching point for even greater effectiveness in the future as he rediscovers his divine purpose, refines his health and takes time to rejuvenate,

As Pastor Mike always says, "the best is yet to come!"