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## **Ode to One Who Has Pointed Us to the One: Dedicated to Pastor Dwight Nelson**

Debbie Michel

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# ODE TO ONE WHO HAS POINTED US TO THE ONE

## DEDICATED TO PASTOR DWIGHT NELSON

Remembering and praising God for you, including ...

The soft landing you provided my family and I as we settled into a peaceful atmosphere where the love you gave was evident in the love that moved through the campus community ...

Your license plate GO2ALL, as you went to all—to the young, to the old, to the lost, wherever they may be, even if that meant across the globe ...

The banner in the sanctuary that flew high for many years with a phrase you often embodied, “Forward On Our Knees” ...

The image of you bending over to comfort a widow whose soft sobbing causes you to rearrange the usual prayer meeting flow, and as the tears fell, the prayers rose ...

The children’s stories where wide-eye faces gasped at the onomatopoeia and sound effects delivered from your mouth ...

The birthday letters to almost 4,000 congregants, even if it took some days to decipher the personalized scribble around the neatly typed page ...

The homilies for funerals and baby dedications complete with your signature touch, where we felt you knew us personally, and you called us friend ...



Jean-Trés Michel

You suited up in athletic gear jogging through the Berrien streets early Sunday mornings—a living, breathing advocate of a healthy lifestyle ...

Your influence on former Lake Union President Don Livesay giving an apology for the church’s past mistreatment of Blacks, and the bottled-up decades of pain finally released into the Camp Wagner summer air ...

The clever Christmas songs you wrote and with the other pastors delivered with humor and cheer ...

The calm, reassuring guidance through a calamitous last few years ...

For the words you would often utter, “The Maker of all things loves and wants you” “The best is yet to come!” ...

May we, one day soon, together hear the words that for 40 years you have encouraged us to hear, “Well done, thou good and faithful servant.”

Debbie Michel  
Editor

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