

From: James Orr

To: The Congregation of Rancho Baptist Church

Subj: Jason Swanson Candidacy for RBC Senior Pastor

Ladies and Gentlemen of RBC,

As a member of the Pastoral Search Team, it is my pleasure to enthusiastically, and without hesitation, recommend that Jason Swanson be called as the next Senior Pastor at Rancho Baptist Church.

My first direct exposure to Jason came when I reviewed his application. While most candidate's answers to application questions lacked depth, Jason's answers stood out for their thoughtfulness, completeness, and candidness. His application was the best one that I reviewed.

During interviews, Jason's passion for teaching the Word stood out. Not just the teaching but his entire process of preparation and his holistic approach to ministry. How he digs into the text and first finds application to his own life. In reviewing his sermons, I found his teaching to be solid. While no one interview answer can encapsulate all that I like about Jason, the following response about how the skills he used to learn about the Siawi tribe would serve him as a Senior Pastor, did resonate with me: *"It totally applies, ministry isn't in a box, it is people. I am not saying I will compromise on God's Word. My fellow students want to just go straight to teaching doctrine...I say, hold on guys, find out where your people are. But meet them where they are...teaching like John MacArthur...sure that is great but our goal is to assist people in their process of sanctification, tweak what you do, meet your audience."*

Finally, I find the story of his, and his family's, life as Missionaries to be beyond impressive. To learn a foreign language, teach God's Word in that language, identify elders, train elders up, turn the church over to those elders, and have it continue to thrive; that does not happen without the anointing of the Holy Spirit. I am excited to see what God has planned for RBC under Jason's leadership.

Sincerely,

James Orr