



## WELCOME

**REV. ROB KASTENS**

**Executive Pastor**



Following a five-month search we are thrilled to welcome Rev. Rob Kastens to the Christ Church family! Rob has stepped into the role of Executive Pastor.

Rob grew up in Eastern Tennessee as the child of a pastor. He has a bachelor's degree in Human Relations, Youth Leadership & Biblical Studies from Milligan University and master's degree in Educational Administration from Loyola University in Chicago. His early career experience includes Director of Campus Life at Milligan University and Director of Student Activities and adjunct faculty, teaching a graduate level course on theories of student development at Wheaton College.

Rob later joined the staff of Northeast Christian Church, Louisville KY, as a small groups pastor, then as leader of its operations ministry and, finally, as its Executive Pastor. After eight years there, Rob accepted a call to become Executive Pastor of Mountain Christian Church in Joppa MD. Over the course of his sixteen-year tenure there, Rob helped the church grow from 1,700 to 5,270, and oversaw a staff of 78. During his time there he saw the expansion of the congregation from one to four sites.

From 2018–19, Rob served as Chief Operating Officer for the Transforming Center in Wheaton, serving alongside Ruth Haley Barton and forming friendships with a number of Christ Church elders. Rob has most recently been serving as Executive Pastor of Mandarin Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville FL.

Rob has been married for more than 30 years to Kelly. Together they have two children. Their daughter, Kylie, works with Christian Missionary Fellowship in Indianapolis. Their son, Blaine, works in film production. Rob says, "I'm known for my bad puns and also enjoy spending time with family, reading, traveling to new places, and watching sports with family and friends – especially the Baltimore Ravens and the Tennessee Volunteers!"