

# FUN FACTS with the Ramani Family

Who speaks the most languages in your family? How many do they speak? What are they?

Aboli speaks the most languages. She can speak 5 languages - English, Simsa, Nagamese, Hindi, Punjabi!

What's a common dish you make when company comes over?

Chicken curry and Butter chicken - they are delicious!

What is your family's favourite holiday? Or favourite holiday memory?

Our favourite holiday memory is our stay in North Carolina while I was pursuing my doctoral studies. We loved driving through the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Approximately how many books do you read a year?

I read about 15-20 books cover to cover. But I do a lot of reading for my sermon preparation. It usually takes me 20-25 hours to prepare a sermon.

What is the weirdest (or an uncommon) food you have had?

Aboli has eaten all kinds of weird food - I think the weirdest is tiger! Yes, I am serious! I play it very safe when it comes to food!

If you could have dinner with someone famous, who would you choose?

I always wanted to meet Billy Graham. I respect him deeply and have read a lot about him.

What would you want to be in the book of *Guinness World Records* for?

I always dreamed of playing Cricket. So may be for scoring the most runs in Cricket!



## TOP QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS about Ashwin Ramani

### 1. How did you vet Pastor Ashwin?

When Pastor Stone advised the eldership that he was preparing to retire, the eldership interviewed two placement consultants that specialize in churches. They quickly engaged Pastor Steve Adams. Interviews were completed with the Elder Board, church staff, and church leadership. The congregation was also consulted through a survey before prayerfully creating a profile that detailed the character, gifts and competencies WestPark was looking for in a new Lead Pastor. Steve Adams reviewed all applicants, bringing to the WestPark board

only those that were a fit for our church based on our initial criteria. The Elder Board further investigated the applicants and, where warranted, interviewed the candidates.

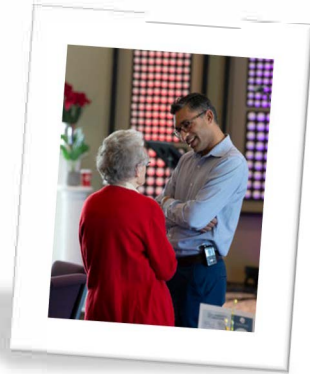


## 2. How did you vet Pastor Ashwin's theology?

The vetting of Pastor Ashwin's theology began in the application stage. Candidates were required to complete a vigorous document. Part of that document required them to describe their theological positions. As it became very clear to Steve Adams that Pastor Ashwin was a solid match for WestPark Church, he conducted several phone interviews to deepen and clarify Ashwin's theology before formally presenting him to the Elder Board as a candidate. The Elder Board held several zoom meetings to freely ask any theological or church leadership questions, and to address any concerns, both of Pastor Ashwin and from him.

## 3. What will Pastor Ashwin be responsible for?

Pastor Ashwin is our new Lead Pastor. God has not only gifted him as a pastor and shepherd of God's people, He has also gifted him in effectively proclaiming the truth of God's Word. In collaboration with the Elder Board, Pastor Ashwin will help determine God's vision for West Park's future. Through his mentoring and leadership with staff and church leadership, and by God's grace and power, Pastor Ashwin will work towards that vision.



## 4. Will Pastor Ashwin make changes to WestPark?

Although change is inevitable and necessary, especially with new leadership, there are no abrupt changes planned to start with; Pastor Ashwin will work to understand the lay of the land and prioritize getting to know our staff and key leaders. Starting Fall 2024, Pastor Ashwin will prayerfully introduce new initiatives as the Lord gives clarity.

## 5. When will Pastor Ashwin begin?

Pastor Ashwin will officially begin May 15, 2024, and will begin preaching a new series on Sunday, May 19, 2024.

## 6. What will some of Pastor Ashwin's first duties be?

Pastor Ashwin will start a new sermon series on the Book of Jonah. Prayerfully asking the Lord to use this sermon series to challenge us to be externally focused as a church and allow the Lord to use us to impact those who do not know Jesus yet as their Lord and Saviour. Pastor Ashwin will also spend significant time in one on one meetings with staff, elders and key leaders.

## 7. How can we help Pastor Ashwin and his family in the transition?

Pastor Ashwin and the Ramani family appreciate your prayers and encouragement as they make this significant transition. We at WestPark can also help Pastor Ashwin and his family by extending patience as they adapt to the culture of West Park and prayerfully discern key initiatives for the year ahead.



Please email [elders@westparkchurch.ca](mailto:elders@westparkchurch.ca) with any questions, or for more information.