

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM UPDATE

February 21, 2018

Meeting Attendees: *Barb Bulthuis (Deacon Rep.) Dave DeGroot, Rev. Gregg DeMey, Jack Lanenga, Steve Loerop, Rob Petroelje, Bob Venhousen (Elder Rep.), Ken Vos, Mimi Stanton, and David Zeilstra*

The following are highlights from the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) meeting on February 21, 2018:

1. **Elders:** Bob Venhousen presented the minutes from the Elders meeting on January 8th. Bob noted that they also met on February 12; Gregg led the devotions and thanked the retiring Elders and welcomed the new Elders. The Elders assigned their responsibilities and section leader assignments. Ashley Slinkman is temporarily coordinating Section Leader activities. As the Elder rep for Discipleship, Jack Swierenga will fill in the “gap” with the absence of Paul Daly (former Director of Discipleship). Installation and ordination of Elders and Deacons will be February 25th. Lastly, Bob noted that we should praise the Lord for the potential of 15 upcoming Professions of Faith.
2. **Deacons:** Barb Bulthuis presented the minutes from their meeting on January 15, 2018 for information. She noted that they also met on Monday February 19th. Barb shared that Pastor Gregg attended their most recent meeting and challenged the Deacons to consider a few new initiatives. Barb mentioned that they spent time reviewing the benevolent cases with the new Deacons. It was approved that Paul Koldenhoven will be the Deacon Treasurer and that Barb will stay on as the Secretary and SLT representative. It was noted that Laura Boot will be doing some visitations as a member of the Care Department, handling this part of Lisa Capozzoli’s (former Director of Care & Community) responsibilities.
3. **Executive Director:** Jack Lanenga presented his report for information. He noted that the new drainage improvements are working well. Jack picked up the new coffee table and information center which saved the church almost \$2,400. Next month Jack will be reporting on the proposed bollards for the front of the church building. Jack reported that Ashley Slinkman is temporarily filling in well as Administrative Assistant. Jack also mentioned that the church has cut back on renting the 15-passenger vans and switched to using the safer option of renting buses. Lastly, Jack presented a memo of understanding related to Artis Senior Living approving the use of our facility in the event of a disaster at their facility.
4. **Lead Pastor:** Pastor Gregg’s report was presented for information. Pastor Gregg commented on the work done by the Ten Talent Team and is looking forward to how the “Stewardship Roadmap” will be implemented by church staff and others. Pastor Gregg added that he was grateful for the Elder’s approval to move forward with the Chicagoland Explore God initiative happening in 2019. He also highlighted the positives from the recent Fat Tuesday and Ash Wednesday gatherings. Lastly, Pastor Gregg led a discussion of Chapter 5 from Growing Young. This chapter challenges the church to develop a warm

- community, to develop relationships to the point where people feel they belong, and finally to encourage hospitality. Over the next few months Gregg will be meeting with staff members to see how they can implement strategies from the book.
5. **Treasurer Report:** Dave DeGroot presented the Balance Sheet dated January 31, 2018. He noted that our cash balance position is similar to last year and that our offerings have been consistent with last year to date.
 6. **Christian Education Committee:** Mimi Stanton presented the minutes from their meeting on January 25th. Mimi mentioned that the new Covent Education Plan (CEP) Affirmation Statement has been completed. She noted that Ken Vander Wal led a discussion on the new Invest in Kids Act that was passed by the State of Illinois. The CEP parent meetings are scheduled for April 8, 11, and 15. The income verification meetings will be held April 18, 22, and 25.
 7. **Ten Talents Team:** Rob Petroelje gave a brief update on a “Stewardship Road Map” that developed by the Ten Talents Team (TTT). The TTT plan on meeting with staff to discuss implementation of content and delivery methods. Rob noted that Kathy Jelnic will continue to serve on the committee as an at-large member.
 8. **Pastor Search Committee:** The Associate Pastor Search Committee met with the SLT to discuss the candidate’s withdrawal letter. The meetings were successful in helping both sides come to an understanding that this position was not a good fit for his gifts and what ECRC needs in our next Associate Pastor. The Pastor Search Committee will be reconvening after Easter.
 9. **Retiring SLT Chair:** Words of respect, affection, and appreciation were spoken to Dave Zeilstra on the occasion of the completion of his term of service as SLT member (6 years) and SLT Chair (3 years).
 10. The next SLT meeting will be Wednesday, March 21, 2018.