

SLT UPDATE

April 19, 2017

The following are highlights from the Senior Leadership Team meeting on April 19, 2017:

1. **Elders:** Bob Venhousen, Elder Representative to the SLT, presented the minutes from the from the April 10th meeting for information. Bob reported that it was a good meeting where they completed assigning tasks for the new elders. Bob commented on how the Elders heard many positive comments and feelings from the congregants about the different services that occurred during Holy Week. Bob added that the Section Leader ministry will get re-emphasized after Easter; there were a couple Section Leader events after the services this past Sunday. Bob also noted that there are eight Professions of Faith coming up. Additionally, there were approximately ten individuals in the new member classes.
2. **Deacons:** Barb Bulthuis, Deacon Representative to the SLT, presented the minutes from the March 20, 2017 meeting for information. Barb added that they met Monday, April 17th. Their meeting primarily addressed current benevolent cases. The Senior Brunch was held on April 22nd.
3. **Executive Director:** Jack Lanenga, Executive Director of Operations, presented his report for information. Jack noted that on-line giving continues to grow, primarily through ACH giving. Jack mentioned that last month they replaced a defective check valve in the sanitary system. Jack pointed out that they are preparing for an upcoming busy season of church rentals. Jack discussed the memorandum of understanding between Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church (ECRC) and Edward Elmhurst Hospital: in the case of an evacuation of the hospital, ECRC would be the backup location for hospital's staff to meet.
4. **Associate Pastor:** Rev. Gregg DeMey's report was presented for information. Pastor Gregg mentioned that he heard many expressions of appreciation of the service offerings during Holy Week and that our community is embracing these various services. He said that they are considering ways to expand these experiences. He also noted that he was grateful for the opportunity that he and the church staff had to meet with the Lead Pastor Search Committee. Pastor Gregg and his family will be traveling to Spain to visit their daughter at the end of May.
5. **Lead Pastor:** Rev. Peter Semeyn presented his report for information. Rev noted that the new member class is made up of a diverse group of individuals. He noted that as the church programs wind down they will be have staff reviews in April and May. He mentioned that Profession of Faith interviews with the Elders are scheduled for May 7.
6. **Treasurer Report:** Dave DeGroot reported that as of March 31st our contributions and gifts are approximately \$53,000 behind budget. Fortunately, our expenses are also running approximately \$53,000 under budget at this time. Jack believes that there may be approximately \$9,000 in permanent savings (lower electricity, audit, and ministry costs). The rest of the budget difference is simply a timing issue in expenses.

7. **Christian Education Committee:** Mimi Stanton noted that the three Covenant Education Plan (CEP) parent meetings have concluded with 95 families attending. Thirty-five families have already completed the process of enrolling in the CEP. Last year, there were 105 families who enrolled in the CEP. The planning for the Christian Education Event on October 8 is in progress.
8. **Ten Talents Team:** The Congregational Online Survey concluded with over 400 participants/respondents. The team is awaiting the final results of the survey from the Barnabas Foundation.
9. **Pastor Search Committee:** The committee met in March and April and conducted 14 interviews with the church staff. The committee will be meeting in April and May in an effort to determine the best church structure and job descriptions. (read the report from the Pastor Search Committee at elmhurstcrc.org/resources/publications)
10. **Security:** Jack Lanenga presented the Security Plan and Implementation Executive Summary. His plan includes creating six sub-committees that will address security issues related to our church. These six committees include: Children and Student Ministries Security, Medical Emergency Team, Insurance Review, Building Issues, Daily Security and Safety, and Cyber Security. These committees plan to meet and complete their work over the summer months. Their plan will also include documenting the safety program. An SLT member will also be involved in the final approval of the insurance package purchased by ECRC.
11. The next SLT meeting will be Wednesday, May 17, 2017.