

SLT UPDATE

January 18, 2017

The following are highlights from the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) meeting on January 18, 2017:

1. **Elders:** Bob Venhousen, Elder Representative to the SLT, presented the minutes from the January 10th meeting for information. Bob mentioned that their discussions regarding the ECRC Worship Vision centered on building unity within the church body and outreach to the community. The Elders are also working on their new Elders' nomination list.
2. **Deacons:** Ted Feenstra, Deacon Representative to the SLT, presented the minutes from the December 12, 2016 meeting for information. Ted added that they met Monday, January 16th and their meeting consisted of routine activities. Ted mentioned that they have started working on the slate of new Deacon nominees.
3. **Executive Director:** Jack Lanenga, Executive Director of Operations, presented his report for information. Jack highlighted the excellent job that Kyle Olsen, Technical Director, did in getting the technology to work so that three correctional institutions would be able to view the ***Too Hot To Handel*** performance at the Auditorium Theater. Jack mentioned that Lindsey Slovey will be leaving her nursery position and that Stacy Lanenga will be replacing her. Jack continues to attend seminars and do the research to develop a security recommendation for ECRC. Jack mentioned that he recently met with Elmhurst Hospital and agreed that ECRC will be the hospital's place of refuge if a security issue were to arise. Over the past month Jack researched our \$14,000 in credit card fees. Jack plans to identify the individuals who regularly donate via credit card and ask those individuals to consider donating via debit card or ACH. He will also add a reminder to our giving pages that credit card transactions incur fees for ECRC. The effectiveness of this plan will be re-evaluated later in the year.
4. **Associate Pastor:** Rev. Gregg DeMey presented his report for information. Pastor Gregg's report included the church calendar with dates delineated for Baptisms and Communion. Pastor Gregg noted that we will go *to one service starting May 28 through August 13*, and ECRC's Fall programming will start around mid-August. He also mentioned that ECRC's worship team was invited to perform at the CRC's Inspire event in Detroit, Michigan. Finally, he added that there are ongoing conversations with the Elders about ECRC's worship vision.
5. **Lead Pastor:** Rev. Peter Semeyn presented his report for information. Rev. highlighted some of the unique opportunities that our church experienced during the holiday season. Rev. shared with the SLT that during 2016 he was in the process of considering his retirement plan. After thoughtful consideration and prayer Rev has decided that *his retirement would come in May 2017*. Rev believes this timing decision honors both his family and ECRC. According to SLT Charter, the SLT is responsible for pastoral searches. With that in mind a search committee for a Lead Pastor was created and appointed Dave Zeilstra as the Chair.

6. **Treasurer:** Dave DeGroot, SLT Treasurer, provided a review of ECRC's year-end financial statements. With regards to the Cash Report he noted the cash balance as of 12/31/2016 was roughly \$460,000. Dave then presented the detailed Profit and Loss Statement for 2016 comparing the budget to actual results. He noted that utilities expenses were almost \$18,000 less than budget. Overall, expenses were \$160,000 under budget with a majority being attributed to the changes in Covenant Education Plan (CEP) costs coming in less than anticipated. Through generous year-end giving and with lower than expected expense, the Elmhurst Ministry Fund (EMF) resulted in spending \$34,000 more than receipts. This is within 1% of budget. Overall, ECRC received \$4,385,396 via donations last year.
7. **Christian Education Committee:** Mimi Stanton noted that one family was added to the Covenant Education Plan (CEP) and two students from another family dropped out of the CEP over the last month. Mimi stated that Alyson Miller and Wendy Marshall will be the new ECRC Timothy Christian School Board representatives.
8. Congregational Meeting is set for February 7, 2017 at 7:00pm.
9. The next SLT meeting will be Wednesday, February 18, 2017.