

SLT UPDATE

November 15, 2017

The following are highlights from the Senior Leadership Team meeting on November 15, 2017:

1. **Elders:** Bob Venhousen reported on the Elders meeting from November 13. Bob highlighted that the Elders had a good discussion from Chapter 4 in the book *Growing Young: Six Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church*. Bob noted that the Caring Calls are ongoing. He also mentioned that there has been positive feedback in regards to Family Sundays so they decided to continue this until the end of the ministry year. Lastly, Bob mentioned that Andy Pasek came to the Elders meeting to share his enthusiasm and plans for the Youth Ministry in our community.
2. **Deacons:** Barb Bulthuis presented the minutes from the October 16 meeting for information. Barb noted that Love Inc.'s benefit concert held at Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church's (ECRC) Worship Center went very well. She noted that the Deacon's nominating committee is making their list of nominees. She also mentioned that the Thanksgiving offering list is complete. The Christmas Senior Brunch is scheduled for December 9 and widow and widower visits are being scheduled.
3. **Executive Director:** Jack Lanenga presented his report for information. Jack noted that the Love Inc. concert went well, and there were many compliments and appreciation for the ECRC facility. The new information center will be ordered soon. Jack then led a discussion regarding some of the recent security upgrades. Jack is arranging for a one-day security seminar for the church staff which will be led by Lion Heart Security. Jack also mentioned that the new parking lot is close to being completed except for landscaping the islands and a couple light poles need to be set up. Staff and leadership are encouraged to utilize the new parking lot. The drainage project along Brush Hill Road has commenced.
4. **Lead Pastor:** Pastor Gregg DeMey's report was presented for information. Pastor Gregg noted that they had a staff retreat at Timothy's new facility. It was five productive hours of communication and openness. Pastor Gregg then mentioned that when considering Church Membership he would like to see a more "offensive" strategy that promotes an "all in" attitude. Pastor Gregg then led the SLT in a discussion on Chapter 4 of the book called *Growing Young*. The chapter highlighted the message that the young adults are attracted to serving, following, and taking Jesus' message seriously; furthermore, they are attracted to the story and narrative of Jesus. The book had *three recommendations*: 1) Less talk about abstract beliefs and more talk about Jesus, 2) Less tied to formulas and more focused on a redemptive narrative, 3) Less about heaven and later and more about the life here and now. Lastly Gregg shared that young people want to hear less what they are saved from and more of what they are saved for, they want to take action and not just hear what they can't do.
5. **Treasurer Report:** Jack Lanenga presented the Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual Budget through October 2017 and noted that our receipts are tracking near budget and that expenses will come in just under budget. Jack then moved to the Elmhurst Ministries Fund

(EMF) cash budget and noted that our bank balance at the end of October was \$267,600 which is considerably better than it was a year ago at the same time. Jack noted that before the end of the year we will need to collect \$830,000. On Sunday Dave Zeilstra will bring this challenge before the congregation.

6. **Christian Education Committee:** Mimi Stanton presented the minutes from their October 23 meeting. Mimi reported that the Covenant Education Plan (CEP) for 2017 will be \$24,000 under budget. The committee continued to discuss the new affirmation statement for 2018-2019.
7. **Ten Talents Team:** The team will meet Thursday November 16.
8. **Audit Committee:** Steve Loerop presented the minutes from the November 8 meeting for information. Steve noted that the committee revised the conflict of interest policy which will be presented to SLT for approval. Jack Lanenga also presented to the committee his Security Task Force update which highlighted several of the physical upgrades that have taken place.
9. **Search Committee:** Dave Zeilstra noted that the committee has met three times in the first two weeks of November. They have had a few more first round interviews, and completed a second interview with one more second round interview scheduled on the 21.
10. The next SLT meeting will be Wednesday, December 20, 2017.