

## SLT UPDATE

March 20, 2019

**Attendees:** Rick Bulthuis (Elder Representative), Rev. Gregg DeMey, Steve Loerop, Rob Petroelje, Phil Sikkenga, Ken Schaafsma, Kevin Van Solkema, Ken Vos

The following are highlights from the Senior Leadership Team meeting on March 20, 2019:

- 1. Elders:** Rick Bulthuis presented the minutes from the Elders' meeting on March 11. Rick mentioned that the Elders made their assignments and that Rev. Jeff Klein was in attendance.
- 2. Deacons:** The minutes from the Deacons' meeting on February 18 were presented for information. It was noted that the Deacons just met on Monday, March 18.
- 3. Executive Director:** Phil Sikkenga presented his report for information. Phil mentioned that ECRC uses multiple services for receiving electronic payments, e.g. Blue Pay and PushPay; the Finance Committee will explore options to streamline and achieve a better rate. In facility news Phil noted the following: Lori and Tom Helmus agreed to tend the flowers in the outdoor concrete planters, a new quote came in for the new stage curtain at \$7,220, the controller for the HVAC system was not working properly and will need to be repaired. The SLT approved Student Ministry Coordinator Andy Pasek's request to allow the Youth Missions Team to hold a car wash fundraiser on May 11 to raise funds for the summer mission trip to Honduras. Lastly, Phil mentioned that over the coming months he will be strengthening and formalizing the security policy and procedures of ECRC.
- 4. Lead Pastor:** Pastor Gregg DeMey's report was presented for information. Pastor Gregg noted that the Chicago Classis of the Reformed Church of America (RCA) and Classis Northern Illinois of the Christian Reformed Church of North America (CRCNA) have both given approval of Reverend Jeff Klein as a pastor at ECRC, and that his installation will be May 12, with the message being delivered by Rev Klein's younger brother, Chris Klein. Rev Klein's report was received for information. Pastor Gregg then led a discussion on Chapter 8 from the *9 Arts of Spiritual Conversations* titled The Art of Welcoming. The chapter challenges us to welcome the less fortunate and those with "messy lives", and accept them as they are. The chapter also discussed the resources we need to use to "welcome" which includes: *Your Face, Your Space, Your Place, and Your Grace*. In April we will discuss Chapter 9 from *The 9 Arts of Spiritual Conversations*.

- 5. Treasurer's Report:** Ken Schaafsma presented and reviewed the Balance Sheet and Income Statement as of February 28, 2019. He noted that as of the end of February we are behind budgeted receipts by \$76,000. He also added that we are behind some of our budgeted expenses due to timing. Ken also looked into some recent giving patterns to help understand the shortfall in budgeted receipts. The discussion began to center around encouraging more regular/routine giving. It was decided that the Finance Team would look into ways to encourage and grow regular giving.
- 6. Audit Committee:** Kevin Van Solkema reviewed the Audit Committee meeting of March 19. The Capin Crouse auditors presented their review of the Financial Statements and Management Letter and provided a "clean" opinion of ECRC's financial statements and internal controls. Kevin also mentioned that we will be participating in Capin Crouse's Church Financial Health Index which will help ECRC compare itself to other similar churches from a financial perspective. Kevin noted that the committee will be reviewing the following in 2019: Audit Committee Charter, Conflict of Interest Policy forms, Security Policy and Procedures, and (with Phil) ECRC's internal controls.
- 7. Ten Talents Team:** Rob Petroelje presented the minutes from their meeting on Tuesday, February 19. Rob noted that their next meeting will be April 10. Jennifer Stolzenbach is the new Deacon Representative to the Ten Talents Team.
- 8. Other Business:** The next SLT meeting will include discussions about projects the SLT should consider addressing in the coming months. SLT members will submit their top three or four projects to Ken Vos by April 10.

The next SLT meeting will be Wednesday, April 17, 2019