

Senior Leadership Team Summary Report May 2026

SLT members in attendance: Gregg De Mey, Brian Stolzenbach, Joel Taming, Dan Rudman, Jeff Byma, Kathy Folkerts, Justin Lawrence, Bill Terpstra, Don Van Beek, Steve Vander Wal, Justin Venhousen, Amy West

Lead Pastor

Pastor Gregg has been guiding the SLT through *Disruptive Church Trends* by Carey Nieuwhof. The team has been discussing key insights from the book, focusing on how ECRC—and the broader church—can prepare for cultural and societal disruptions. A central theme has been how we can faithfully walk alongside individuals facing difficult life circumstances, offering the love and hope of Jesus in meaningful ways.

In response to recent email phishing incidents involving compromised staff accounts, the SLT has requested a cybersecurity audit from an independent third party. Staff members have updated their passwords and continue to use two-factor authentication to strengthen security. Please remain cautious and avoid opening emails that seem unusual or inconsistent with the sender.

Executive Director of Operations

Several applications have been received for the Youth Coordinator position. Executive Director Justin Lawrence is currently conducting screening phone interviews and will soon present qualified candidates to the appropriate staff for further consideration.

Construction of a new prayer room is underway, with completion expected by the end of the summer.

Financial Update

Treasurer Dan Rudman reports that giving remains strong. The church is currently on track financially while staying within planned expenses. As of May 4, 2026, the loan balance stands at \$665,045, with a goal of fully retiring the debt by the end of the year.

On Sunday, June 7, SLT Vice Chair and Hearts Ablaze Campaign Co-Chair Joel Taming and Pastor Gregg will share a *Hearts Ablaze* update with the congregation during Celebrate Ministries Week.

Strategic Plan

Response to the Strategic Plan survey was strong. Your input is valuable as we seek to grow **UP** in worship, **OUT** in our community, and **IN** relationships within our church family.

Elmhurst Farmers Market

The Elmhurst Farmers Market opens on June 3, 2026, featuring over 40 vendors and additional food trucks this season.

Kyle Schnettler has been hired as Day Manager and will support vendors and volunteers each Wednesday from June through October. If you're interested in serving, a variety of volunteer opportunities are available—please contact the church office for more information.