

SLT UPDATE

September 15, 2021

Attendees: Rev. Gregg DeMey, Mimi Stanton, Rob Petroelje, Kevin Van Solkema, Ken Schaafsma, Aaron Ozinga, Ken Vander Wal (Elder Representative), Jennifer Stolzenbach (Deacon Representative)

The following are highlights of the September 15 Senior Leadership Team meeting:

- 1. Elders:** Ken Vander Wal presented the minutes from the monthly Elders' meeting on September 13. He shared positive feedback from the worship service on September 12 where the presence of the Holy Spirit was deeply felt. Ken shared sentiments of joy as everyone sang the Hallelujah Chorus with the choir, band, and the pipe organ. Ken noted an eagerness to celebrate the Lord's Supper together, hear God's Word, and enjoy fellowship, refreshments, and conversation on the patio afterwards.
- 2. Deacons:** Jennifer Stolzenbach presented the minutes from the Deacons' meeting on August 16. Deacons seek to further engage the benevolence of our congregation with our missionary partners, diaconal ministries, and other charitable Christian organizations. She reported that beginning at the October 3 service, the Deacons will collect a special offering on first Sundays of each month. Deacons will circulate traditional baskets to collect regular, and special offerings, during the Family Worship service. These special offerings are an opportunity for children to witness God's abundant generosity.
- 3. Executive Director:** Mimi Stanton presented her report for information. Mimi thanked volunteers and staff, in particular acknowledging Michelle DeJong, for her exemplary work in planning the gathering on the patio, after the September 12 worship service. Mimi also recognized Joe Beles for preparing the church building for fall ministries. Mimi reported higher than expected numbers in the nursery and in Children's Worship at the September 12 service.
- 4. Lead Pastor** – Pastor Gregg DeMey presented his report for information. Gregg relayed his gratitude for the Elders' verbal communications to the congregation at recent worship services. He also shared some anecdotes from outdoor worship services this summer. Pastor Gregg reported his plans to take Sabbatical time in the first part of November, which the SLT heartily endorses. He also reported that Marve Wolterstorff, long-time choir director, retired in August. Marve will be honored during the October 17 worship service, including a reception for choir members on an additional date.
- 5. Treasurer's Report:** Ken Schaafsma reviewed the Balance Sheet, Income Statement, and liquidity levels as of August 31, 2021. He noted that both receipts and expenses are below budget. Ken also reported that the PPP loan forgiveness application has been submitted.
- 6. Personnel Committee:** Kevin Van Solkema reported that the Personnel Committee is in the process of reviewing and updating its Operating Guidelines. Kevin also reported new staff hires: Krysta Kranenborg as Nursery Coordinator and Katie Snyder as Nursery Assistant.
- 7. Digital Ministry Plan:** Todd Bouman provided an update from the August 26 meeting. The new ECRC website, the Trello online organizational tool, and the Planning Center software are all operational. The Digital Ministry Team continues to make enhancements within these new systems.