

SLT UPDATE

January 15, 2020

Attendees: Rick Bulthuis (Elder Representative), Mike de Waal Malefyt (Deacon Representative), Rev. Gregg DeMey, Steve Loerop, Rob Petroelje, Phil Sikkenga, Ken Schaafsma, Mimi Stanton

The following are highlights from the Senior Leadership Team meeting on January 15, 2020:

- 1. Elders:** Rick Bulthuis presented the minutes of the Elders' meeting on December 9. Rick stated that the Elders met on Monday, January 13. Rick noted that they have a full slate of 8 Elder Nominees. He added that the Elders have been involved in discussions with Pastor Gregg in preparing for February's sermon series titled "*Tough Stuff*."
- 2. Deacons:** Mike de Waal Malefyt noted that there was no Deacon meeting in December and that they met on January 13. He added that the Deacons have finalized their 8 Deacon Nominee list. Mike also mentioned that the upcoming open Deacon positions were discussed and the December widow and widower visits had been completed. Lastly, Mike shared that Angela Buikema will be reaching out to Pastor Jeff Klein to see how the Deacons can become more involved in the Outreach Ministries of ECRC going forward.
- 3. Executive Director:** Phil Sikkenga presented his report for information. Phil noted that he and Ken Schaafsma have been busy wrapping up the end of year Financial Statements and preparing for the upcoming Audit. Phil added that he will be sending out the end of year Financial Statements shortly. In regards to facility use, Phil was glad to report that Calvin University's simulcasted January Series has been very well attended. He also noted that he has received more interest in facility rentals which can provide opportunities to expose the community to ECRC. Phil also informed the SLT that next year when the east side patio is being repaired, a trench and empty conduit will be provided for a future electrical supply line to feed EV charging stations. Lastly, Phil mentioned that ECRC will be hosting Feed My Starving Children on March 13 and 14 which will be a great opportunity to engage the community.
- 4. Lead Pastor:** Pastor Gregg DeMey's report was presented for information. Pastor Gregg shared that even though the December 22 worship with the prisoners of Angola and congregants of ECRC did not happen as planned due to a fire and subsequent prison lockdown, all was not lost. The prisoners showed up right after the simulcast service ended so Pastor Jeff, Pastor Bert, and Doug Bardolph led the Angola prisoners in a second service. Pastor Gregg also noted that a group of

approximately 16 ECRC members will visit Angola and another Louisiana State Penitentiary to host Too Hot To Handle on January 19. He mentioned that on Sunday January 12, there were approximately 700 people in attendance and 400 hits on Livestream. Lastly, he shared that on February 2, we will be celebrating Missions Sunday and three of our supported Missionaries will be in attendance.

5. Pastor Gregg led the SLT in a discussion of chapter 8 from the book, *Deep & Wide: Creating Churches Unchurched People Love to Attend*. The fourth Faith Catalyst delineated in that chapter is *Providential Relationships*. Pastor Gregg noted that they often come upon us versus us necessarily planning for them. A providential relationship is evident when we see or hear God working through someone. It is important for us to turn on our God sightings radar. The fifth Faith Catalyst is *Pivotal Circumstances* which are “defining moments” in our lives. Pastor Gregg pointed out that how we interpret an event and the conclusions we draw about God in the midst of those events either draw us closer to or away from God. In February the SLT will discuss *Deep & Wide* – Chapter 9; Pages 153- 192.
6. **Treasurer’s Report:** Ken Schaafsma gave thanks to the Lord for the fantastic giving results at the end of the year. Ken noted that the congregation gave \$125,000 more than the 2019 budgeted contributions and that \$650,000 was raised in the last two weeks. Ken noted that the giving was broad-based in that 378 out of 437 families gave a donation in the last six weeks of 2019. Ken presented the 2020 budget which will be presented to Council on January 20.
7. **Finance Committee:** No Meeting.
8. **Personnel Committee:** No Meeting.
9. **Christian Education Committee:** Mimi Stanton presented a summary report of the CEC and its changes over the last six years. Mimi noted that the committee met last week. She added that Covenant Education Plan (CEP) meeting will take place in March. Mimi also presented a list of six nominees for the two open positions to serve on Timothy Christian’s School Board.
10. **Audit Committee:** No meeting. Kevin Van Solkema submitted the 2020 and 2021 tentative Audit Committee dates and Audit Committee objectives for 2020.
11. **Ten Talents Team:** No Meeting.

The next SLT meeting will be on Wednesday, February 19, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.