

Grace Transition Team Minutes (excerpted)
October 27, 2009

Meeting opened with reflection on Isaiah 6, sharing about excitement and fears regarding the transition period, and a time of prayer.

Scot gave a brief summary of who Alan Forsman is, we will learn more when Alan is here on 10/29.

Question: What is the main goal of the Grace transition team (GTT)?

- Grant reiterated the goals outlined by council:

The goals for 2009 are:

- 1) to determine the best pastoral model for the interim period.
- 2) to search for the best interim pastor/team to be in place by the end of Jan. 2010.

The goals for 2010 are:

- 1) to assess the internal and external context of our church (who we are within Grace, who we are within the community we live in).
- 2) to assess our pastoral/staffing needs in relation to our mission and vision.
- 3) to initiate a pastoral search committee to fill our pastoral/staffing needs. This committee will have considerable carry over from the transition team. Per our constitution, members of the search committee must be members of Grace Community Church.

Comments during discussion of issues before GTT

- GTT should interact with the congregation on issues regarding the interim timeline, as well as our future direction
- Next several months could be helpful in discerning what kind of interim we might want
- Concerns that more lead time may be needed if this involves adjustments to the preaching schedule
- Emphasis in 2009 should be almost entirely on getting the interim staff in place
- The question was raised of the possibility of Jed as the lead interim pastor
- Need to establish clear roles of communicating to the congregation between council and GTT
- Make sure the congregation knows that they can approach any of the GTT or council members. Pictures of the members in a prominent place might be helpful
- Communication could happen with visits to small groups
- Suggested that GTT members and their spouses ask for prayer by the prayer team on Sunday morning
- Suggested that each member of the team find two or three prayer warriors that will commit to praying for them throughout the transition period.

Questions we would like for Alan to address on Thursday:

- Describe the pitfalls of Jed serving as the interim lead pastor.
- What are the best ways to achieve good verbal communication with the congregation?
- Is there a list of potential interim pastors with resumes that Alan would suggest?
- Is there a preference or benefit to selecting a Covenant pastor as interim?
- What compensation considerations should we be aware of for interim pastors?
- Are there expectations from the PSW conference for us to communicate our status with them?

Election of officers:

Chair: Charlie Lehardy

Vice Chair: Steve Peterson

Secretary: Michelle Fleming, with much help from others as needed

Note: Charlie plans to be in Mexico from January 10-16 and for the Month of February. Steve Peterson will serve as Chair during this time.

Next Meetings:

Oct. 29, 2009 – 7:00pm – with Alan Forsman

Nov. 9, 2009 – 7:00pm.