

The Grace Transition Team is in gear. With each weekly meeting we draw closer to each other and feel God's leading more and more. We all are thankful for the privilege to serve Him, and you.

You can view our meeting minutes and other communications on the Grace website at:

<http://www.gracetucson.org/transition.php>

Top priorities for the Transition Team are:

- Pray for the transition process
- Communicate with the church to give and receive feedback during the transition
- Work closely with Jed and the Council
- Recommend an Interim Lead Pastor to begin in January
- Consider what the church staffing will look like after the transition
- Develop a profile of Grace Community Church to provide to Lead Pastor candidates

As was discussed at the last congregational meeting, Jed will continue serving as Associate Pastor once we have an Interim Pastor on board.

Some of you have wondered if Jed could be our interim pastor during the search process. In our past two meetings we discussed the pros and cons of calling an outside pastor to lead the church during the interim vs. asking Jed to be our interim pastor.

None of us lack confidence in Jed's abilities, but in the end we agreed with the advice given to us by the Covenant denomination that we should look outside of the church for an interim lead pastor, with Jed continuing as our Associate Pastor. Among other things, this will safeguard the integrity of our search process and Jed himself against any hints or accusations that he is improperly influencing the process. That, in turn, lets us consider Jed as a candidate for permanent lead pastor on a fair and level playing field with the other candidates we'll be looking at.

Thanks to those who have already given us your thoughts on the process. Please continue to pray for us and give us your thoughts about our church. After Christmas, we will begin discussions with all the small groups and ministries to get your feedback. To prime the pump, we'd like you to be thinking about these questions:

- What about Grace should we celebrate?
- What are your concerns about our church?
- What is one hope you have for the future?

And one more thing... please ... keep on praying!