

Session Meeting Update, December 13, 2016

The West Side session, the elected the elders of the church, met on December 13th.

- At this meeting Pastor Shari offered her reflections on being at West Side for 100 Days including affirmations about the staff, session, and disciple making at West Side. Shari called for the formation of 3 working groups:
 - Listening Circles Group - to distill what is heard at the Session Listening Circles into a report for the February session meeting. Pastor Jesse will lead this group.
 - Consulting Group - to seek and recommend outside consulting services to coach West Side leadership in the year ahead. Pastor Shari and Pastor Jesse will co-lead this group.
 - The Fellowship Community/TFC Group - to advance our commitment to and identity with TFC. Pastor Shari will lead this group.

Elders, members, and staff interested in joining a Working Group may contact Pastor Shari and Pastor Jesse.

- Pastor Jesse is working on adult education courses for winter quarter. Youth confirmation class and a new member class will be offered soon.
- Spiritual Life Department reported attending a worship service at University Presbyterian Church called "This Dark December". The purpose of a service like this is to offer spiritual comfort and care for people who are grieving at Christmas time. Other names for a service like this are "Blue Christmas" or "Service of the Longest Night". West Side may offer a service like this next Christmas, possibly in partnership with other West Side churches.
- Stewardship and Finance reported unified giving is currently at 82% which falls short of this point last year.
- The Christmas Eve offering will be for Missions this year as it has been in the past.
- A Personnel Committee has been formed. Current members are Jim Campbell and Becky Upton.
- The Interim Ministry Roadmap in print and digital formats is being well received.
- Session Listening Group guidelines were discussed.
- Session expressed appreciation to everyone who helped with the Dec 11th worship services Christmas play. Worship attendance on Dec 11th was over 400.
- Outreach encourages everyone to attend the Sunday December 18th West Side Open House at the church from 4-6 pm.

Please continue to prayer for the West Side session as they lead our congregation.