

Session Update
April 3, 2018

The Pastor Nominating Committee met with session this month to update elders about the unfolding process to call West Side's new Head of Staff Pastor. Jill Campbell opened the meeting with a stirring devotional about God's faithfulness to draw people into the family faith. She reminded us that God is always at work in big and small ways. Our role is to 'wave people in', welcome newcomers, and hear their story. There's a lot more to what she shared. If you get a chance, ask her or an elder and PNC member about it. You'll be blessed.

Together the PNC and session reviewed an update to West Side's Church Mission Study. Chris Hjort has created a dashboard of updates indicating where progress is being made (green light), where initiatives are beginning (yellow light), and in what areas we are not yet moving ahead (red light). This will be published and shared with the congregation and the PNC will share it with pastoral candidates.

Session encouraged the PNC to share their update with the congregation on April 15 following worship. Chris Hjort will share the Church Mission Study update. Alan Muller will share an update about plans for an evening worship service.

Funds were approved to provide additional childcare support to upcoming church events.

Provision was made to hire a part-time Children and Families Minister to lead ministries to children from birth through 5th grade, their parents, and, together with Stacy Kutz, Youth and Young Adults Minister, continue to provide opportunities for intergenerational fellowship.

Session approved a measure to streamline decision making in session departments.

Lee Sundquist as appointed to chair a task force to find creative ways to how West Side's future pastor, to serve from now until the new pastor is housed.

Financial update: session is encouraged to note that giving is at 88% of the Funding Guide, highest we have seen in over a year.

Home Communion Training was approved for all elders interested in serving. Notice will be sent to all elders about upcoming training on Saturday April 28th at 5pm in the Chapel.

Feedback was offered to Spiritual Life and Christian Education departments about children in worship and the use of the chancel extension (a small stage).

Thanks for reading this session update. Your prayers and wise counsel are always welcome.