

## Council Update

July 26, 2016

The Transition Team met on July 20. A primary focus of the team during these summer months has been to hear from and listen to the congregation. To that end, team members have met with several small groups to listen to the concerns, anxieties, values and hopes of the church.

Additional opportunities for similar listening sessions will be given on Sunday, August 14 and Sunday August 28. If you have not yet participated in one of these settings, please consider coming to one of the sessions after the worship service. Childcare will be provided. So mark your calendar and plan to grab a beverage, drop off your children, and join us for a time to talk together about the future of River Terrace Church. We want to hear from ALL of you! Look for more information in the coming weeks.

Council met on July 21 and approved the decision to contract with Rev. David Sieplinga to serve as our interim pastor. Rev. Sieplinga will officially start on September 1 and begin leading worship and preaching on September 11. He will be working 30-35 hours per week and plans to be at River Terrace approximately 3 days per week. In addition to leading worship and preaching, Rev. Sieplinga will be attending meetings of the council, elders, transition team, staff and worship team.

Rev. Sieplinga will be assisting the Transition Team and the Council as we move forward. His work will include helping us sort through the results of the listening sessions, look at the leadership structures of the church and put together a church profile. He has agreed to be a facilitator of the Council Retreat scheduled for the weekend of October 21 and 22. Eventually, he will assist us in forming a Search Committee for a new pastor.

Please keep River Terrace Church, Rev. Sieplinga, the Council, and Elders, Deacons and Transition Team in your prayers.

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will direct your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6*