

## Transition Update

by the River Terrace Church Council

The transition team, working on behalf of the Council, met again on May 17. The team is working in several areas according to the mandate given by Council.

**Summer Preaching**—Potential preachers have been identified and the full summer schedule should be set by the time you read this. We will be going to one service on June 19, and Clay Libolt will be preaching. Following Clay we have three members preaching: Brenda Kronemeijer-Heyink, Gary DeVries, and John Medendorp. Beverly Weeks, a Candidate for Ministry, will preach July 17 and 24. (Note, a Candidate for Ministry is someone who has graduated from seminary, but has not received a call to a church.)Harvey Stob, retired pastor at Ann Arbor CRC, will preach August 14, 21, and 28.

**Interim Pastor**—We have identified and contacted several highly recommended retired pastors and asked them if they would be willing to be considered as an interim pastor. We have an affirmative response and will be meeting with the pastor in late May to explore this further.

**Hearing from the congregation**—Transition team members have met with several small groups and the Pastoral Care Givers to hear from them about issues or concerns of importance to them and what they value about RTC. We are exploring some options of how to effectively hear from the congregation during this transition. If you have ideas, please share these with Susan Medendorp, Jim Nicholas, or Donna Oade, as they are leading this effort. If your small group would like to meet with one or two transition team members, please let us know.

**Interaction with staff**—RTC staff are ensuring that church operations, programs, worship, and facilities continue to run smoothly during this transition. Two transition team members have met with staff twice and plan to continue regular meetings to keep staff fully informed and to address any issues or concerns they may have.

**Corporate Prayer**—We all pray individually, but only a few are meeting to pray as a group (corporately). The Council believes engaging RTC in corporate prayer is critical. Another article in this month's River's Edge lays out our plans.

The transition team's next meeting is May 31. Please continue to pray for the transition team, Council, staff, Pastor Ken, and our church. We welcome you to speak with any Council or transition team member regarding the transition.

*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*