



April 25, 2010

From the Elders...

So much has been happening since our last communication, and we want to take this opportunity to update everyone on some of the areas in which we have been moving forward. Our Lord has been very gracious in providing for our congregation, and this has been most apparent in seeing how He has worked through His people. Over the last few weeks we have seen the continuing work being done by so many of you, as we enjoyed a very successful Easter Egg Hunt and have seen consistent dedication in people serving in many other areas of ministry. We have, time after time, seen the church being the church as people care for one another through many areas of ministry and especially through our small groups. We have also celebrated a number of baptisms as people made decisions to follow our Lord and Savior.

In the area of Global Outreach Ministry (missions), we have begun developing our strategy which will guide us in supporting ministries both locally and internationally. We are presently dedicating ten percent of our church income to supporting ministries working in areas outside of our church's scope. Three percent of these funds are being committed to supporting the church being planted on the north side of Spokane under the leadership of Richie Shaw and Greg Turbin. If you are interested in being a part of the leadership team for the Global Outreach Ministry, please contact Howard Amland at 509.944.6370 or at hamland@myvrl.org.

The Elder selection process is moving forward with the recognition of four men in our congregation who have agreed to go forward with the process of evaluation and training. A questionnaire has gone out to these candidates, and we are tentatively planning to begin the training evaluation process in May.

Finally, we are delighted in letting you know that we are moving forward in the search for the man God is calling to be our Senior Pastor. Throughout this coming week we will be meeting with Nathan Rector, a pastor from Quincy, Illinois. After numerous conversations with a number of people, including Nathan himself, and our brothers at RLM (Post Falls), we believe he may possibly be the man God is calling to lead this ministry. Nathan, his wife Jayme, and their two children will be here this week and Nathan will be preaching to our congregation next Sunday, May 2. If you'd like to meet Nathan and say hi, he will be available in the foyer between both services today and next Sunday.

We look forward to getting to know Nathan and for Nathan to get to know our congregation so that we, together, may ascertain God's leading. We ask you to make this a matter of dedicated prayer during this coming week. Pray that the Lord will make His desire clear to all of us and that we will be attentive to His leading.

We thank God for all of you and for the privilege of serving Him together.

For Him,

Dean Byrns, Ed Palacio and Scott Sparley

Valley Real Life Elders