



July 18, 2010

From the Elders...

Along with all of you we are truly delighted to have Nathan Rector finally here to serve with us as Senior Pastor. Nathan, Jayme and the kids are settling in and beginning to enjoy the great Northwest, and they are pleased to be meeting many of you and learning more about all of you that make up this wonderful congregation we call Valley Real Life.

This is a very exciting time for our church as we begin this new phase in our life together. As you heard from Nathan last Sunday, there are in the short term some hurdles that need to be overcome. These are difficult financial times for many in our community, and it is a difficult financial time for our church as well. For this reason, over the next three weeks we will be giving everyone the opportunity to participate in a special offering which will help us get through the more difficult months of summer without needing to disrupt our staff with possible cuts in pay or staff positions. Look for the blue envelopes in the bulletin for the special offering. We hope you will prayerfully consider how you might be able to participate.

The selection of additional elders is still in process, and it is our intention to be able to select, train and install new elders by year-end or early spring. We have delayed the beginning of the training process so that our new pastor will be able to be a part of the process with us. We are allowing him some time to settle into his responsibilities and will soon begin the training process in earnest. As soon as it is appropriate, we will publish the names of the elder candidates so that you may join us in prayer for these men and have the opportunity get to know them. We also want you to be able to communicate with us if there are reasons why you believe any of the elders or elder candidates should not be serving in this important position. Please continue to support in prayer this very important step for our congregation.

Lastly, we want to express our sincere gratitude to all of you for your support and patience during the selection process that brought Nathan Rector here as our Senior Pastor. We believe with all our hearts that the Lord brought Nathan here and that he is exactly the right person to come lead our church body. We also believe that the faithful prayers of this congregation brought this about. For that we are immensely grateful.

We love you,

Dean Byrns, Ed Palacio and Scott Sparley
Valley Real Life Elders