

December 2014

To the Members and Friends of Christ the King,

Greetings from your Session. This has been a year of changes! Some good and some... well, not bad, but certainly sad. If we believe our God is all good, all powerful and all knowing, then we can with confidence trust that even the transition of a beloved pastor to another ministry will be for our good and blessing. Yes, it's hard sometimes to make sense of God's providence in our lives, but what is crystal clear is God's revealed character and loving disposition toward his children.

It's tempting to feel or believe that when a senior pastor leaves, ministry stops or is put on hold. The good news is that ministry is alive and well at Christ the King! God is being worshiped, the Word is being proclaimed, people are being taught, the sacraments are being administered, people are being greeted, kind words are being spoken, events are being celebrated, meals are being taken to those in need, missions are being funded, and needs are being addressed. Most importantly, prayers are being offered—not just by your shepherds, but by you one for another. In a very real sense, ministry doesn't start with the pastor or Session. The next time you look at the Sunday bulletin, look on the back panel. Above the Session and the Diaconate, you will see this:

#### **MINISTERS**

*The members of this church family who, in serving their Savior and Lord,  
Jesus Christ, extend His Kingdom in Vero Beach and to the world.*

This is how Christ designed the church. We who have experienced the grace and mercy of Christ in our lives are called to love one another and bear one another's burdens. And this is why ministry is alive and well at Christ the King, why the Church "works": because every week hundreds of acts of service are done—many small, some large, some seen, most unseen—by you.

#### **Refinance**

We are pleased to report that we were able to successfully refinance our \$430,000 loan with Northern Trust on November 1, 2014. This was accomplished in large measure by a \$355,000 loan from members through CTK Partners II, LLC and also by a \$75,000 second mortgage from Marine Bank. Again, a wonderful example of ministry by some to the church. The interest rate on our loan with CTK Partners II is at 5%; with Marine Bank, it's 6.5%. Neither loan has a prepayment penalty, so we are able to immediately apply all gifts designated as debt reduction to pay down our loans. This also presents an opportunity for any folks who would like to invest in CTK Partners II and receive a 5% return on their funds. All funds received would be used to pay off the second mortgage and save the church the 1.5% difference in interest.

#### **Search Committee**

Your Search Committee is hard at work. We are thankful for the wonderful spirit of harmony and unity around our vision and mission, as well as for the helpful, diverse perspectives brought by our different backgrounds. To date, the committee has reviewed 80+ submissions, spoken by phone with five candidates, and has brought or will bring in over the next two months four candidates for face-to-face interviews. We continue to receive submissions. We don't know if God's man for us is in this current group or not, but we are encouraged by the process. Your committee has spent countless hours meeting, discussing, reviewing applications, listening to sermons, calling references, and arranging travel and interviews. Please continue to pray for your committee to be wise, discerning, strengthened and encouraged. And pray for the church's patience as these searches can sometimes take 18 to 24 months.

### **Year End**

Over the past several years, your faithful generosity has enabled Christ the King to sustain ministry, significantly support mission efforts locally and around the world, and to pay off half our building loan. While transitions can often present challenges both financially and otherwise for a church, they also can reveal the true heart of ministry, love and service within a body. As we approach the year's end, we encourage you to continue your generous support and faithful service. Because ministry is alive and well at Christ the King.

In your service for His glory,

Your Session,  
Clayton  
Glenn  
Zach