

2013-2014 RLC Annual Meeting

Question/Answer Session

Q. Was Pastor David treated with kindness and respect?

A. David was treated with kindness and the utmost respect as well as generously. It was David's decision to leave. Although it was not an easy decision, it was one the council felt was right for RLC. We ask you to keep both David and RLC in your prayers.

Q. Why did David's departure happen now when giving and membership are down? Why didn't members have input? Would the council consider helping members heal?

A. David was responsible for giving and membership growth so we do not anticipate adverse effects. Council was elected by members to make these decisions on their behalf. We respect your opinions and feelings and we will consider how we might help members heal.

Q. How many giving units are not giving?

A. Most units give less than \$5 per week.

Q. You mentioned that dedicated funds could be used to reduce the deficit. What are funds dedicated for?

A. Gifts without designation go into the general operating budget. Gifts dedicated to be spent on specific needs, such as the kitchen, can be borrowed, but are repaid promptly.

Q. Is there a separate fund for the church building (mortgage, etc.)?

A. Yes. There is a fund to pay the mortgage. Dedicated receipts are also received to help with this.

Q. Where does RLC stand on gay marriage? Is it up to pastors to decide?

A. RLC doesn't have a stand at this time but we understand that we will need to hold respectful conversations with members soon. The decision is not up to a pastor(s), but rather it is up to the congregation. We will need to determine how our church will respond to this issue before calling a new senior pastor.

Q. Marriage equality language can have a negative impact on membership. Are you afraid of this impact on RLC?

A. The legality of gay marriage as of August 1 means RLC needs a response in the event of a request to perform a ceremony at RLC. Any overall decision needs to be made by the congregation. (see previous question).

Q. Does the Synod have a position on same sex marriage?

A. The Synod is leaving the decision up to each congregation (refer to Synod Web site for more information).