

December 18, 2014

Dear friends,

Merry Christmas! On behalf of the Session and staff of Central, I pray that this Christmas is for you one of closeness with our Lord Jesus and warm fellowship with family and friends. If you are in town, please join us at one of our three services on Christmas Eve—see details on our website at www.centralpres.com/christmas. I look forward to sharing this special night with you.

It has truly been my privilege to serve you as the Interim Moderator of the Session this past year. Thank you for this unique opportunity! This will be my final letter to you in that capacity, as I rotate off Session and my term as an active ruling elder comes to an end as of December 31. In anticipation of my term coming to a close, your Session at the December meeting unanimously voted to elect Eric Schmidt as Interim Moderator for 2015. I am confident Eric will be a tremendous blessing to Central over the next year; please pray for him! (You may be asking why Bob Hopper, as our Interim Senior Pastor, might not serve in this role. Bob believes that a ruling elder-led Session has worked extremely well this year and would like to see that continue.)

Session continues to move forward in filling the two new positions outlined in my November letter: 1) Assistant Pastor of Congregational Care; and 2) Director of Evangelism and Assimilation. At the December meeting two separate search teams, one for each position, were approved, and we anticipate both searches beginning in earnest during the first quarter of 2015. We are eager to see the Lord work in and through Central via these two strategic commitments. And—we need your help in making it happen!

As mentioned in my previous letter, December is a vitally important month for Central financially. We typically receive 25% of our \$4 million annual budget in December. Your partnership in this area, no matter how large or small, is essential. Would you please pray about the following?

1. **2014 Pledge Fulfillment** If you made a pledge for 2014, thank you! Please take a look to see if you have fulfilled your pledge, and if not, please consider fulfilling it during December.
2. **Special Year-end Gift** As I write this letter, we are behind pace for December giving. If you are able, please consider an extra gift to Central this year. Thank you for sincerely praying about this.

Friends, **we give for a purpose.** Pray with me that, as we work together at Central, many lost souls would be found, the found would be disciplined, and all of us would glorify God in all we do. This is our calling. This is our privilege. This is our response to Christmas. Thank you for all that you do in the name of the Lord at Central. I pray God will bless 2015 as we continue to minister together!

Blessed Christmas!



Bob Mark
Interim Moderator