



by Al Mulder,
Council Co-chair



and Victoria Gibbs,
Council Co-chair



NEW TREASURER

Recently we formally recognized and thanked Jim Booydegraaf for his excellent service as Madison's Treasurer and head of the finance team. This is a volunteer position which Jim filled for six years, and did so with distinction. Jim enjoyed the work but was compelled to relinquish it because of the press of other responsibilities.

Jim gave ample notice of his resignation. Executive Director of Ministry Anthony Dickerson solicited nominations, interviewed a number of persons, and recommended the appointment of Scott Huebl. The Executive Committee endorsed the appointment, and the baton was passed from Jim to Scott at the April 14 Council meeting – toward the end of the budget building process.

The Council is delighted with Scott's willingness to serve, his training and credentials for the work, and the smooth transition between Jim and Scott. One of Scott's early actions was to recruit Jim to continue serving as treasurer for the Making Room fund.

Get to know Scott

Scott was born again in 1971 during the Jesus People outpouring. I have been involved in music ministry almost ever since. Currently, in addition to music ministry at Madison, I have a gospel rock band out of Denver that does Gospel Rescue Mission chapel ministry on a regular basis.

As for his finance skill, here is some of his experience:

- MS accounting from University of Colorado, 1985
- Certified Public Accountant; certificate granted by the state of Colorado, 1985
- Worked for KPMG, a global public accounting firm from 1985 to 1991
- Employed since 1991 by Oppenheimer Funds, Inc., a global investment company. I am vice president of Investment Taxation, doing consulting.
- Prior to that I was VP and Tax director for ten years.
- I have served and am serving as treasurer to various not for profit organizations through the years.

ANTI-RACISM AND NEW IDENTITY IN CHRIST

The leadership at Madison Church is strongly committed to an anti-racist approach to congregational life and ministry. This is demonstrated by the work of Laura Carpenter as Director of Diversity, by Madison's Anti-Racism Team (MART) which serves as a sub-committee of Council, and by Madison's partnership with Church of the Servant and Coit Community Church in our joint initiative called CORR, i.e. Congregations Organizing for Racial Reconciliation.

For the last couple of years "persons of color" on staff and in Council leadership have met regularly in a Leaders of Color caucus. The primary purpose of the caucus is to encourage one another in one's anti-racist journeys, and to realize more completely one's new identity in Christ. In March the Council endorsed a recommendation from the Leaders of Color group that all Council members be invited to join ministry staff in this work of caucusing.

The plan is to meet monthly. The meeting will start with Bible study, followed by persons of color and white persons meeting separately to do their "own work," and then coming together again for reporting to one another and dismissal. Initially these meetings are limited to staff and council, with meetings already held in April and May. The hope and prayer is that this strategy can be expanded at a later date to include other interested persons from the congregation.

COUNCIL LEADERSHIP FOR 2009-2010

On April 14 Council approved the slate of officers for the new ministry year, with terms beginning in August, as follows:

- Arlene Potter and Kris Ryskamp will continue to serve as Deacon co-chairs.
- Kris Vander Stelt will continue to serve as chair of the Elders.
- Council and Executive Committee co-chairs will be Victoria Gibbs and Joel Hogan. Victoria has been serving as co-chair for several years; Joel comes into this role in place of Al Mulder who will be leaving Council after 5 years of service.



Madison Square Church
United in Christ as a Diverse Community

1434 Madison Ave. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49507
(616) 245-7791
e-mail: office@madisonsquarechurch.org
website: www.madisonsquarechurch.org