

March 10, 2017

Reference for Ric Olson

To whom it may concern:

Ric Olson has been a member of our church for almost 20 years—my entire tenure here as Senior Pastor. He has served in numerous roles, most notably as an elder for several terms. He has also worked very skillfully with our Finance Committee and with Search Committees.

Ric is an extraordinary thinker, leader, and Christian servant. He is especially good at guiding others through decision-making processes, making sure that everyone has buy-in. He often has insights that escaped the rest of us and always—*a/ways*—presents his views with the greatest of respect for others. He is prayerful, good-humored, and patient.

Ric also displays professional financial acumen. He is aware of standard accounting practices and governmental regulations on a wide variety of things we've encountered. He's skilled and visionary in areas of budgeting and staff salaries and benefits. He works well with other financial people. He is able to define and hold his ground when needed, but always with grace.

Beside his work with boards, Ric is tenderhearted toward those with heavy burdens, especially the elderly. He has been a peacemaker in our church and has helped me greatly in this regard, even when I was the one who had to be challenged.

I recommend Ric without reservation and with highest regards,

Rev. Lee Eclov

Senior Pastor

Village Church of Lincolnshire (EFCA)