

Dear Faith Community Church,

Your Board of Elders desires to inform you of our recent activities and request your prayer for us as we collectively pursue our Spirit-led mission of making more and better disciples of Jesus Christ. Below is a summary of our September activities. If you desire to learn more about a given subject, please don't hesitate to contact a pastor or elder. Thank you for your interest and desire as we seek to help thousands more experience Jesus in a gospel inspired life.

September 12, 2023 Regular Elder Meeting:

Topics:

Prayer: The elders discussed various needs and situations and spent time in prayer for our church.

Accommodating and Enhancing Growth Project Update: Updates were provided by the three sub-teams. The Design and Build team noted that internal meetings intended to scope out the various expansion needs have been completed. Additionally, an architect has been formally contracted and will be enabled via a 'design and build' contract model where FCC will have a single point of contact for the project via our contracted builder. The first working meeting with the architect is planned for later in September. The Capital Campaign team noted that an in-person meeting with our contracted firm has been held and a number of meetings with various key enablers for the project were completed. In collaboration with the communications team, a 'case statement' for the project has been completed. Various team members for the capital campaign are presently being recruited. The overall project remains on track.

Executive Pastor Search Update: Our present Executive Pastor will be retiring in 2024 and a national search for his replacement is presently underway. A slate of candidates has been presented and three have subsequently been interviewed. The elders were informed of the current interview status. Due to various travel schedule conflicts, next steps will likely follow in October.

HR Planning (Part 2 – please see last month's report for Part 1): FCC is coming into a season of significant and important turnover. Last month's discussion focused predominantly on pastoral transitions (efforts to replace our executive pastor are noted above). The focus of this discussion concerned FCC's various 'support functions'. As background, one of our current office administrators has recently resigned. A proposal was made to focus the functions of this full-time position toward supporting our data, design, and communications needs. In addition, our current part-time position originally focused on support database administrative needs will now focus on other office administration duties. This change is basically cost-neutral. The elders approved the proposal.

Conceptual plans to address other likely future transition-related needs were also presented, discussed, and directionally affirmed.

Roles, Responsibility and Authority within the Local Church Theology Discussion: Per our earlier meeting reports, FCC's elders are considering this topic (please review previous reports for additional context). The elders reviewed a proposed draft that contemplated how they viewed the Bible's teaching regarding eleven key questions associated with the subject. Comments, critique, and discussion regarding the first five questions were heard. Edits will be made accordingly. Further discussions will continue at future meetings.

September 26, 2023 Regular Elder Meeting: This meeting was canceled due to a number of travel conflicts.

How you can pray us:

- For God's grace, healing, and presence for the Prince family.
- For Dan Clancy and his health as he continues to lead our next-generation ministry.
- For God's guidance and wisdom as the elders and staff begin filling important positions at our church that are associated with forthcoming retirements, planned additions, and a recent resignation.
- For God's wisdom and guidance as we look to begin implementing our plans to accommodate and enhance the growth that FCC has been experiencing.
- In thankfulness to God for the three men who successfully fulfilled their elder apprenticeship, were recently affirmed as elders of our church, and have now been formally commissioned.
- For God's guidance and wisdom as we contemplate how to best shepherd, via a diaconate structure, those who call FCC home. We earnestly desire to do this well while being a church of our size.
- For God's guidance and wisdom as we contemplate how to best develop a leadership and discipleship initiative to meet the needs of FCC.
- In thankfulness to God for his continued and faithful provisions to FCC and his work in drawing many more in joining with us.
- For God's wisdom and leading as we look to broaden our marriage ministry.
- For the unity of our body as we experience a number of changes that our present growth is bringing about.
- For God's wisdom, guidance, and unity for the elder board as we continue to contemplate and discern many matters of importance, including our continued discussions concerning roles, responsibilities, and authority within the local church and specifically how it applied to our context at FCC.
- For God's wisdom and guidance as FCC contemplates what church planting via a campus planting model means in practice.
- For God's grace and blessings upon our church and wisdom for our leaders.
- For our staff and volunteers as they work diligently to faithfully serve the increasing number of people who are calling FCC home.

In Love and Peace,

Gregg Bennett – Chairman of the Elders on behalf of your Elder Board:

(Gregg Bennett, John Blum, Bill Brinkman, Jim Duffy, Dan Fosterling, Jon Gross, Steve Holsteen, Eric Lent, Tim Porter, Tim Prince, Pat Stream, Tim Studt, and Larry Szyman)