

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 December 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.

December 12, 2023 Regular Elder Meeting:

Updates

- The executive pastor candidate we've been pursuing has accepted our offer. The elders are very thankful! Plans to inform the body were reviewed and approved.
- An initial slate of candidates for our Campus Pastor position was presented to us in early December. Zoom interviews are scheduled for December and early January.
- 42 people attended our most recent Connect Lunch.
- 40 people attended our recent Sharing Jesus Seminar, and some are already implementing their learnings. Praise God!
- On Jan. 11 the next round of Christianity Explored begins
- A member meeting is planned for Feb. 11th to vote on new membership applicants.
- Our first-ever annual celebration meeting is planned for Feb. 18th.

Topics:

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

Design and Build (D&B) and Capital Campaign (CC) Team Updates: The D&B team leader informed the elders that the team's plans now revolve around the launch of a capital campaign in the 2nd half of 2024. The next meeting with our architect is 12/21. We expect plans that will meet our budget and design objectives. Initial renderings are also expected at that time. An important forthcoming decision will be our approach to increasing auditorium seating by 25%. Initial chair plans, aligned with likely auditorium modifications, are encouraging. Once the overall design and high-level cost structure is set (ideally by 2/1/24) the team will likely begin focusing on interior design matters. The CC team leader noted that he has reviewed the plans to delay our CC to the 2nd half of 2024 with our CC consultant. Our consultant supports that approach. Various changes to the schedule and other CC expectations were discussed. The CC team awaits interior and exterior renderings from the D&B team.

Quarterly Staff Objectives Review: The elders reviewed the subject. Generally, the primary milestones related to the overall elder objectives were being met. The elders expressed their thanks and appreciation for the progress.

2024 Vision Script and Plan: The elders reviewed the annual update to our vision script which describes the elders' primary objectives for FCC for 2024 and a 3-year outlook for FCC and its ministry. (Note: We hold these plans loosely, especially the plans for 2025 and 2026.) After discussion, and some revisions, the vision script and 3-year plan were approved. (Various staff objectives will be aligned with these plans.)

Sabbatical Policy: FCC's sabbatical policy is in the process of being finalized. Key aspects of the policy were approved by the elders. Time did not allow for all details to be determined. These will be finalized at an upcoming meeting.

Diaconate Approach and Pilot: Throughout 2023, FCC's approach to 'shepherd eldering' has been moving forward. We plan to implement this important aspect of our ministry through a diaconate and in association with our Missional Communities. The key concepts and envisioned approach to their implementation were discussed. Various job descriptions (for both vocational and non-vocational roles) have been created to clearly define roles and expectations. Thoughts on how to both pilot and train for this initiative were shared and discussed. After this review and feedback, the elders approved the suggested approach.

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 and planned additions.
- For a successful transition of our new executive pastor and his family.
- For God's guidance and wisdom for the elders as they develop a new pastor on-boarding plan.
- For God's wisdom and guidance as we begin implementing our plans to accommodate and enhance the growth that FCC has been experiencing – specifically our efforts to design a facility that will meet our needs within budget targets.
- 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 many changes, brought on by our present growth.
- 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 call 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, Larry Szyman and Chris Willeke)