

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 October activities. If you desire to learn more about a given subject, please do not 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.

October 8, 2024, Regular Elder Meeting

Updates

- The elders were updated on the status of the various staff transitions underway.
- The elders were updated on the monthly metrics reports.
- The elders were updated on a concept for a possible ministry residency program for FY25/26.
- The elders approved a capital expenditure for a new camera to support our on-line ministry.
- The elders approved a gift request to honor Gregg Heinsch's 40 years in ministry, his founding of FCC, and his ministry in Florida after being formally sent there upon his departure from FCC many years ago.

Topics

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

Membership Roster Update: An assessment of FCC's membership roster was completed. Several inactive members were contacted as part of this effort to discern their interest in remaining as formal members of FCC. The outreach was well received. Several inactive members requested that their membership be formally erased while others desired to remain. The elders discussed and approved the proposal to update our membership roster accordingly.

Parking Lot Expansion Update: The elders were updated on our planned parking lot expansion. The city planning board approved our proposal with minor modifications. Formal city approval is expected in 2 weeks. Part of the North parking lot will close for expansion. A plan to park on the grass at 771 was discussed and will be implemented. The parking expansion is expected to last between 4-5 weeks depending upon the weather.

Capital Campaign Update: The elders were updated on the latest efforts regarding the capital campaign. FCC continues to move toward a November pledge date. Various requests of the elders to support various activities were made and agreed upon.

Shepherding Response Team: An update from the Shepherding Response Team was provided. (See previous meeting notes for additional information.) Last month, the elders approved proceeding with Peacemakers to facilitate mediated reconciliation with a concerned family. Peacemakers have contacted the family and given them an overview of the process. Once the family informs Peacemakers that they are ready to proceed, Peacemakers will create and send us a contract. The Peacemakers process can begin once we submit a signed contract and pay the deposit.

Health Insurance Renewal: An update was provided regarding the annual renewal of the subject. Initial cost estimates were provided. It was also proposed that FCC's healthcare be expanded to include dental, term life, disability, and other insurance options. The elders discussed and approved the expanded coverage.

Sense of the Elders – Pastor Title: A sense of the elders' discussion was continued regarding the subject. (See earlier meeting notes for additional information.) These insights will be included into our on-going efforts to develop a Roles, Responsibilities, and Authority Structure in the Local Church elder position paper. Various views, commonalities, and differences were all discussed and noted.

October 24, 2024, Regular Elder Meeting: This meeting was cancelled given the workload associated with various activities.

How you can pray us:

- For God's grace, healing, and peace upon Dan Clancy's family and all those impacted, including our many youths, by his recent passing.
- For God's guidance and wisdom for our staff and elders regarding our next generation ministry as FCC works through an interim staffing plan and looks to hire replacement candidates.
- For God's guidance and grace upon the many staff transitions that are presently underway and that our ministry would be enhanced and God glorified in the process.
- For God's guidance and wisdom as FCC looks to address a child protection policy breach regarding our two volunteers/staff with any child protocol that occurred in late February during a Saturday conference. Please also pray for effective implementation of new measures to address the matter and that this topic can lead to unity and spiritual growth.
- For God's grace and wisdom upon the two new pastors that FCC has recently hired and that they will be enabled to begin ministry quickly and effectively at FCC.
- 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 – specifically our efforts to design a facility that will meet our needs and budget target and our efforts to finance it through a capital campaign.

- 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 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 the unity of our body, as we experience many changes, 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 applies 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 – especially as we deal with a complex health plan matter.
- 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 Duffey, Dan Fosterling, Jon Gross, Steve Holsteen, Tim Kurtz, Eric Lent, Tim Porter, Tim Prince, Pat Stream, Tim Studt, Larry Szyman, and Jan van Amerongen)