

JULY ELDER UPDATE

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 July 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.

July 8, 2025: Regular Elder Meeting:

This meeting was cancelled, and the planned topics were brought into the July 22 meeting noted below.

July 22, 2025: Regular Elder Meeting:

Updates

- The elders were updated on the building expansion project. Overall, the project is going well and is remaining within the expected budget. Some minor issues were noted. Unfortunately, various delays will continue to impact our Fall ministry programming.
- The elders were updated on possible future land needs and opportunities. Recent explorations have led to relationships that may be of benefit in the future, but no shorter or intermediate term opportunities are anticipated. Another exploration is being planned.
- The elders were reminded of the planned Annual Meeting (8/17) that will be held in the evening and followed by a prayer and worship service. A prayer opportunity regarding the new expansion is also being coordinated with the construction effort.
- The elders were informed about Fall programming in regard to space and time sharing between Awana and Refuge. The elders were very thankful for the diligent efforts and creativity that was needed to enable this plan.
- The elders were updated on various monthly metrics regarding attendance, finances and the Reach campaign.
- The elders were updated on the interview/hiring status concerning our vacant Refuge ministry director position. A candidate has been identified, interviewed, and will be offered a position.

Topics

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

Capital Spending Authorization: Various capital expenditures that were approved by the membership as part of the recent budget proposal were formally requested and approved for spending by the elders.

Construction Loan: A written authorization from the board to enter into a construction loan agreement with a local bank (for the on-going building expansion project) was presented, discussed, and approved. The loan will largely be used to enable necessary (and expected) cash flow given that the pace of the building project is proceeding faster than the pace of Reach campaign giving.

Updated Child Protection Policy: Various edits and clarifications have been made to the subject policy. The elders were advised of the changes and approved the updated policy.

Sense of the Elders - Regular Constitution Update Process: The elders were advised of the likely need to continue to update FCC's constitution to provide improved clarity and efficacy. The idea of the elders working on this topic in an annual rhythm where amendments would be brought to the membership as part of the annual budget meeting and voted upon as part of the annual meeting was discussed and affirmed.

FCC Staff Objectives: The elders reviewed the staff of FCC's objectives for the current ministry season. The various higher objectives were presented and discussed. At present, nearly all of the current season's objectives are on track for their expected completion dates.

Sense of the Elders – Roles, Responsibilities, and Authority Structure in the Local Church Paper (RR&A paper): Given a number of other urgent priorities, the RR&A paper has not progressed substantially. A proposal to divide the work into three different sub-teams was provide and affirmed by the board.

Request of a one-time gift for missionary support: A request to the elders was made, discussed and ultimately approved.

Plan to enable changes to FCC's constitution & bylaws and vote upon Lead Pastors: The subject timeline and various actions that will be needed was presented and affirmed.

How you can pray us:

- 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 guidance as we continue to implement various changes in the roles of our pastors and that unity in our body will be maintained as we work through the envisioned transitions and necessary constitutional change requirements.
- For God's guidance and wisdom as we contemplate how to best develop a discipleship initiative to meet the needs of FCC.
- 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 the unity of our body as we experience a number of changes that our present growth and our recently commenced building project is bringing about. For our staff and volunteers as they work diligently to faithfully serve the increasing number of people who are calling FCC home.
- For God's wisdom and guidance as FCC contemplates what church planting via a campus planting model means in practice.
- For our next generation ministry and our newly hired ministry director as he begins his work with our middle school and high school students and their families and that his move to FCC proceeds well for him and his family.
- 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 we continue implementing our plans to accommodate and enhance the growth that FCC has been experiencing – specifically our efforts to conduct ministry effectively during the construction phase of our on-going building project.
- For peace and reconciliation.

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, Eric Lent, Tim Porter, Tim Prince, Pat Stream, Tim Studt, and Jan van Amerongen)