

JUNE 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 June 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.

June 10, 2025: Regular Elder Meeting:

Updates

- The elders were reminded of the upcoming Annual Business Meeting on August 17
- The elders were updated on the status of possibilities regarding future property needs.
- The elders were updated on recent discussions regarding possible locations for future campus planting. A group with relationships to FCC have advocated for Roberts, WI as a location to plant a church. The group was advised that the elders will prayerfully consider this as we seek the Spirit's leading and were also encouraged to continue discerning what the Spirit might be doing through them, including the possibility of an independent effort. It was agreed that we would remain in communication.
- The elders were updated on the on-going building expansion project and potential disruptions for ministries in the fall.
- The elders were given an update on an unresolved conflict
- The elders were updated about the Reach capital campaign and God's continued faithfulness in that regard. The elders expressed their thanks.
- The elders were introduced to communications metrics that are being considered as important to follow and understand.
- The elders were advised about an interest to sell FCC's rarely used bus. The elders approved proceeding further.
- The elders were informed that a candidate for our open Refuge leader position will be making a visit to FCC in late June/early July.
- The elders were updated on the most recent organization chart that reflect recent changes as well as changes that are being proposed to our membership for approval.

Topics

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

Church officer appointments: The constitutional-required appointments and reviews related to the church offices of Clerk, Treasurer, and Financial Secretary were reviewed and approved as needed.

Quarterly Metrics Review: A review of FCC's quarterly metrics, covering a number of topics including attendance, income, budgets, and various discipleship metrics was presented and discussed. The metrics continue to indicate that FCC appears to be generally healthy. This assessment aligns with the elders' perceptions as well. The elders continue to be thankful for God's activity and provisions in so many ways.

Child Safety Policy Update: The elders were informed that various smaller modifications to the subject policy are being prepared as FCC prepares for the Fall Ministry season. A summary will be brought to a future meeting with the intention of gaining a formal update of the policy.

Next Steps for Proposed constitution changes: The elders were provided a proposed schedule regarding the timing of various member communications and meetings concerning the subject and planned votes. It was agreed that members would be first communicated with and that the body as whole would be updated following the completion of the various votes.

Pastor Licensing – Next Steps: The elders were updated on efforts to create a curriculum in support of a more rigorous approach to licensing future pastors at FCC or pastors who are not currently licensed. Initial content should be ready by September 1st. A possible first cohort was also discussed.

Sense of the Elders – Formal Groundbreaking for the new building expansion: The subject was discussed, and it was agreed that a prayer event in combination with the upcoming Annual Meeting in August would be a good approach. Various actions will be undertaken to determine the viability of the idea.

June 24, 2025: Regular Elder Meeting:

Updates

- The elders were updated on the on-going building expansion project and its likely impact/disruptions upon Fall ministries.
- The elders were updated on efforts to find a good solution to our Wednesday night ministry programming needs given the construction related facilities disruptions.
- The elders were given an update on an unresolved conflict
- The elders were updated regarding the May Executive Report covering various metrics.
- The elders were informed of a decision regarding elder aspiration.
- The elders were updated about the current use of FCC's transitional housing and were very thankful for how God has been active there.

- The elders were updated on the timeline for meetings required for constitution and leadership changes.
- The elders were informed about the upcoming candidate visit regarding our open Refuge leader position.
- The elders were informed that our current Financial Secretaries are willing continue in their service to FCC. The elders expressed their appreciation.

Topics

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

Annual Meeting: As a follow-up to an action from the last meeting, further details were shared about linking the annual meeting to a prayer and worship event in support of the on-going building expansion. The elders affirmed the proposed direction.

Adult Ministries Update: The elders were provided a detailed update regarding on-going plans to establish a broad and uniform approach to FCC's adult ministries. A number of convictions and next steps were provided. The elders were highly supportive of the effort.

Constitution and by-law Revisions: Proposed revisions to FCC's Constitution and By-Laws regarding various clauses concerning FCC's amendment making process were reviewed, discussed, and approved. A formal membership vote will be pursued.

Pilot Diaconate Update: The elders were updated on efforts and learnings regarding FCC's pilot diaconate effort. More than 100 members are presently being contacted and cared for by the pilot diaconate. Efforts on how to integrate the intentions of the diaconate with FCC's Missional Community ministry were also noted. The elders were extremely encouraged by, and thankful for the report and efforts.

Sense of the Elders – Various Topics: The sense of the elders was assessed regarding various matters. The first involved efforts to move forward the elders' work regarding our position on the Roles, Responsibilities, and Authority Structure in the Local Church. It was agreed that a smaller sub-team approach can be tried. The next topic involved FCC's website and how we can best care for possible urgent care needs. Suggestions were provided and will be aligned with on-going Pilot Diaconate efforts looking for something similar. The final topic included expanding FCC's confidential materials policy where it was agreed that the elders directionally affirm the general effort.

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 contemplate various changes in the roles of our pastors and that unity in our body will be maintained as we work through the envisioned transition and the 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 God's guidance and wisdom for our staff and elders regarding our next generation ministry as FCC works to hire leadership roles in the Refuge.
- 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)