

MAY 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 May 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.

May 13, 2025 Regular Elder Meeting:

Updates

- The elders were reminded of upcoming meetings: May 18 (Vision Forward), May 20 (Congregational Meeting regarding Tim Porter's calling to a new role at FCC), June 1 (Member vote on fiscal year 2025/26 budget), August 17 (Annual Meeting).
- The elders were updated on the status of possibilities for resolving future property needs.
- The elders were updated on recent discussions regarding the discernment of possible locations for future campus planting.
- The elders were updated on the on-going building expansion project and its likely impact/disruptions upon Fall ministries.
- The elders were updated about an on-going dispute. We have continued to update our insurance provider on the matter. They have assigned an attorney to us whom we have begun working with.
- The elders were informed that a candidate for our open Refuge leader position has been identified and will likely be coming for an in-person visit and interview in late June.

Topics

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

Leadership Structure: As noted in a previous update, Pastor Tim Porter has felt called towards, and has chosen to step into, a new role at FCC. The elders have previously affirmed and approved this change. (As announced, Pastor Tim Porter will share more details about this transition at the May 20th congregational meeting.) As of the May elder meeting, FCC is without a lead/senior pastor. The elders reviewed and approved a proposal to commend to FCC's membership Pastor Tim Prince to the position of Lead Teaching Pastor and Pastor Jan van Amerongen to the position of Lead Executive Pastor. A planned organizational structure was also presented, discussed, and affirmed. It was also agreed that this information would be shared at the May 20th Congregational Meeting following Pastor Tim Porter's discussion.

Leadership Structure – Constitutional Revisions: A lead/senior pastor is a constitutionally required position at FCC. The position also requires a membership vote. At present, FCC's constitution does not anticipate more than one lead/senior pastor as the elders have agreed to commend to the membership. Revisions to FCC's constitution and By-Laws to enable more than one lead/senior pastor were reviewed, discussed, and directionally affirmed. Small revisions were later made and approved by the elders. These revisions require membership approval.

Leadership Structure – Next Steps: Next steps regarding informing the congregation and the membership about the commended changes to FCC's leadership structure and constitution/by-laws were discussed. The need for additional congregation meetings was affirmed.

Sense of the Elders - Pastoral Licensing: A proposal for FCC to more rigorously train and license future pastors was presented. The elders were highly supportive of the proposal. Many questions, comments, and suggestions were made. The input will be utilized for future planning and implementation. Potential pilot candidates were also discussed.

Sense of the Elders – Non-Auditorium Baptisms: Conscience-based concerns regarding FCC's auditorium-based baptismal approach were discussed. It was agreed that in certain instances baptisms beyond FCC's auditorium may be acceptable.

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.
- 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 peace and reconciliation.
- 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.

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