

Elder Council Meeting
October 7, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Members present: Randy Beach, Mike Evans, Jon Knopp, Ross Phillips. Absent: Kevin Weaver. Administrative Assistant: Bob Sievert

Randy Beach opened the meeting in prayer.

Ross Phillips led the study of Romans 1:8-15. Mike Evans will lead the study at the next Elder Council meeting, looking at Romans 1:16-17.

The minutes of the September 16th Elder Council meeting were approved as submitted, and will be posted on the FCC web site: www.Homeforever.org

OLD BUSINESS:

Elder Accountability Discussion: Prior to this meeting the elders had filled out a “Personal and Ministry Accountability” assessment form; and their spouses had completed an “Elder Assessment by Family Members” assessment form. The elders discussed how they are doing in areas such as giving, personal devotions, prayer, being a godly husband and father, and modeling a servant-leader.

Baptism Class on October 11th: The class has been cancelled and will be rescheduled at a later date.

Financial Update: Bob presented a financial update through the month of September, 2009 (end of the 2008-2009 fiscal year). We closed the fiscal year with revenues of \$674,208, and expenses of \$664,433. These yearly figures represent an average weekly giving of \$12,965, and average weekly expenses of \$12,777. The gross margin for the year was a positive \$9,775.

Revenues for the current fiscal year starting August 1st 2009 have been down \$1,630 per week when compared with last year’s average weekly giving. The average weekly giving since August 1st 2009 has been \$11,335. The expenses for during this same time period have averaged \$11,651 per week, which is \$316 more than revenue.

The elders discussed the status of the budget, cash flow figures, and attendance at Sunday morning worship services in general. Topics of discussion centered on the economic recession, people’s perception or misperception of reformed theology, connecting, communication, and communication feedback. The elders will continue to monitor and discuss all of these facets at future meetings.

Update on “Couple in martial distress” meeting: An update was given relative to an earlier meeting in the week with a husband who is going through the process of divorce. There have been some encouraging steps taken in this process, and it is still the encouragement of the Elder Council that steps be taken that will lead to confession, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

NEW BUSINESS:

Percussion Lessons: A contract has been drawn up that will spell out conditions of building use for an agreement between Faith Community Church and Mr. Anthony Block, in which FCC facilities will be used for the purpose of percussion instruction on Tuesday evenings between 3:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Bernie Wollenberg will monitor this contract.

Benefit Garage Sale: Angie Koch sponsored a garage sale for the benefit of Brian and Lisa Sabby. Brian has been undergoing treatment for cancer of the esophagus. Proceeds from the garage sale, \$725, will be sent to the Sabby's.

Lamp posts: The lamp posts on the island in front of the building have not been holding up. Five of the original seven lamp posts are broken and have been removed. The elders have budgeted \$2,000 for the replacement of two lamp posts that will be installed along the center sidewalk. The installation of new lamp posts will be deferred until next spring when hopefully there is budget flexibility to make capital purchases.

Families in Economic Need: Randy led a discussion concerning the growing number of people who are experiencing long term economic needs. With the recession affecting employment opportunities, the elders discussed the possibility of establishing a separate not-for-profit 501(c)(3), which would be overseen by a separate board of directors. After discussing the complexities of establishing, maintaining, and operating a separate business enterprise under the guidelines of a 501(c)(3) it was decided to not pursue such action at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Family in Economic Distress: Randy brought up the needs of a family that is behind in rent, utility payments, and other payments. The elders approved assistance up to \$350 up to Randy's discretion, after he has had an opportunity to meet with the family. Randy is to help arrange for on-going financial counseling for this family through the Good Sense ministry.

The elders closed in conversational prayer for the needs of the church family.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Bob Sievert
Administrative Assistant to the Elder Council