



Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting July 17, 2016

Opening and Prayer

Pastor Tim opened the meeting in prayer and called the business meeting to order.

Roll Call-

- Elders present: Pat Barry, Wayne Batten, Dick Bickings, Andy Brimer, Mark Culton, Dennis Flanagan, Tim Gibson, Swannie Griffin, Jeremy Harkins, Chris Jones, Byron Roth, Shawn Sommons
- Elders absent: Kevin Hardy, Scott Holwick
- Deacons present: Rob Christiansen, George Hardy, Mark Hardy, Kevin Kritzberger, Andy Meeks, John Romero
- Deacons absent: Kamba Kalubi

Approval of Minutes-

- **Motion** was made to approve the minutes from the January 31, 2016 Annual Congregational meeting, **seconded** and **approved**.

Pastoral Reports-

Each of the pastors had the opportunity to speak to the congregation about the state of the ministries that they oversee as well as thanking people and praising God.

Senior Pastor: Tim Gibson:

- Probably moving to a 2 Peter sermon series after 1 Peter
- 20-30 people at Wednesday Prayer and Bible study, Pastor Tim encouraged us to come
- Pastor Tim encouraged everyone to be serving in the church
- Pastor Tim mentioned the need for deacons and a LEAD class that will be happening soon

Pastor of Youth: Mark Culton:

- Reminded the congregation of the purpose statement of EBFC student ministries: **"to partner with parents as we seek to disciple students for God's glory."**
- **LITC**: successful week; 1st of 3 day-trips tomorrow.
- **Lynfield**: Continue to be sensitive to the Spirit's leading about how to best minister to our neighbors there; Service, Cookout and Concert planned for August 14th (tentatively)
- **MS and HS staff**: training in fall, retreat, continue to prayerfully consider others in the congregation for ministry.
- **Student Leadership**: still evaluating, in the interim, Illuminite has filled that gap - Henri Darby doing a really good job with developing student leaders in that group.
- **Mentoring**: nothing official; case by case; we have a few students that are also attempting to come alongside of younger students and mentor them (Illuminite)
- **Synergy** - continue to build it; connect with parents

Pastor of Discipleship: Dick Bickings:

- Excellent VBS this year - the content of the curriculum as well
- A "Discipleship Pool" was established this year to disciple people. We are using the

- book “The Walk”
- Planning for the Fall - Awana coming up
- Talking about starting up a men’s Bible study on Saturdays, beginning in September?
- Real need for teachers in children’s ministry
 - Toddler class, as well as 3rd, 4th and 5th grade classes.

Pastor of Worship: Jeremy Harkins:

- Been here for a year and a half, been incredible to see the love and support from this church.
- Looking for ways to reach out through music, teaming up with the evangelism team
- Been going through the “Gospel in Life” from Keller. One of the powerful effects from the gospel is... we will have a heart of love for the least of these

Nominating Committee-

The members of the nominating committee needed to be approved for renewal so they can continue the important work of vetting potential Deacon and Elder candidates to be sent to the Board of Elders. By secret ballot, the following individuals were all overwhelmingly approved to serve on the committee:

- Tim Gibson
- Wayne Batten
- Donna D’Imperio
- Mark Florentine
- George Hardy
- Chris Jones
- Kevin Kritzberger
- Shelley Penchik

Annual Conference Highlights

Wayne shared a few highlights from this year’s BFC Annual Conference:

- The Executive Board set some new policies in place.
- David Allen was re-elected for another 3 year term.
- Department of Missions
 - ‘Universal tendencies across the denomination to devote an increasing amount of resources towards internal ministries...’
- Church Extensions
 - Pinebrook Bible Conference had its most positive report in year.
 - Victory Valley has launched a financial campaign to construct a new dining hall.
- Study Committee
 - Study analyzing whether abuse constitutes biblical grounds for divorce - the consensus was no. However, modifications were made to the Biblical Principles of Living to specifically address abuse as sin.

Update on Policies

Wayne and Byron explained some of the changes that are being made to various policies at this present time.

- Building Use Policy - we have gathered all the policies together and put them on one policy
- Gift Acceptance Policy
- Whistleblower Policy
- Conflict of Interest Policy
- Fundraising Policy
- Indemnification of Elders Policy

Financial Report [Andy Brimer]

- Andy thanked the counters who do behind the scenes work.
- Andy also thanked Debbie Griffin for her role as bookkeeper - she takes care of behind the scenes things, like payroll.
- Budgeted Income: \$492,000 - Actual: \$467,000
 - We are behind in giving; approximately \$25,000 from our offering target (through June).
 - Expenses (through June) were 100% of budget.
- Andy drew attention to the Designated Funds, and mentioned that giving to those funds (i.e. Faith Promise) should be above and beyond normal tithing.
- Let us know if you need offering envelopes.
- Andy read 1 Peter 4:10 and reminded us that serving is a commandment, and that we must be obedient to find our giftedness, and serve in the church. Kevin Hardy leads a class [Networking] to help with this process.

Update on Staffing

Byron shared that we are still evaluating the staffing throughout the year as we observe the financial status of Ebenezer. Any changes in staffing will be decided by an update meeting in September.

Discipline Issue

Pastor Tim shared with the congregation about a discipline issue. We have gone through the process of church discipline with John Sanfilippo, and now we are “telling it to the church,” as commanded by Matthew 18. This has been heart-breaking, and it is our prayer that those from the congregation who know John will pursue him and urge him towards repentance. There was then a time of prayer for John.

Prayer & Adjournment-

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded and approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mark Culton
Secretary to the Board of Elders