



**EBENEZER**  
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

## **Annual Congregational Meeting January 29, 2017**

### **Praise & Prayer (6:30-7:00)**

**Theme:** Prayer Acknowledging God's Sovereign Activity

**Text:** Psalm 147

- **Praise & Thanksgiving:** Ps 147:1-9; 12-19 (focused on the proactivity of God)  
Short pop-up prayers of praise and thanksgiving focusing on how God met our ministry needs, and what God did in the lives our people in 2016.  
Song: 10,000 Reasons
- **Submission:** Ps 147:10-11 (humility & hope)  
Time of confession & submission, particularly regarding God's purpose for EBFC in 2017  
Song: My Jesus I Love Thee
- **Supplication:**  
Asking God for unity as a church  
Asking God for wisdom in fulfilling the vision that he has given us.  
Song: Rock of Ages

### **Annual Meeting (7:00 - 8:30 pm) – Attendance: 90**

#### **Roll Call**

- Elders Present: Tim Gibson, Pat Barry, Dick Bickings, Dennis Flanagan, Swannie Griffin, Kevin Hardy, Jeremy Harkins, Scott Holwick, Chris Jones, Phil Norris, Shawn Sommons
- Elders Excused: Wayne Batten, Byron Roth
- Deacons Present: Rob Christiansen, Mark Dammeyer, Mark Florentine, George Hardy, Kevin Kritzberger, Andy Meeks, Bob Penchick
- Deacons Excused: Mark Hardy, Kamba Kalubi, John Romero

#### **Approval of Minutes**

**Motion** was made to approve the minutes from the Annual Congregational Budget Meeting held on December 11, 2016, **seconded** and **passed**.

#### **Election of Delegates to BFC Annual Conference**

The following elders were **approved** to be delegates by show of hands:

- Wayne Batten, Delegate
- Phil Norris, Delegate
- Scott Holwick, Alternate Delegate

### **Financial Report** (Andy Brimer)

Treasurer and Elder Andy Brimer reviewed the 2016 financial report. (See Attachment #1, and the Annual Report pages 25-26.) In addition, he reviewed the information in the report through the use of slides, (Attachment #2). Andy also shared other comments:

- End of 2016 budget report – positive balance of approx. \$20K
- Congregants can now donate stocks, bonds, ETF's, Mutual Funds via new account (all turned around and sold)
- RLB Accountants – will be doing our audit
- Elizabeth Heyer estate update - EBFC was named in the estate; money is to be used locally for outreach
- 2017 Outlook, behind somewhat
- Thank you to Finance committee and internal audit members.

### **Approval of the Annual Report**

The 2016 Annual Report was highlighted and discussed briefly.

- Questions regarding finance page (compensation)
- Comment on how good the report was, great tool for new people.
- Prayer of Thanksgiving (Scott Holwick)

**Motion** was made to approve the 2016 Annual Report, **seconded** and **passed**.

### **Membership and Discipline** (Pastor Tim)

- Care List – A Care List of members who have not attended recently was distributed. The congregation was encouraged to be involved in the care of these members (make contacts: cards, calls, etc.). At the next Congregational Meeting, we will vote to remove from membership those who have not attended in over a year (act of church discipline).
- Church Discipline Issue - (1 Cor 5; Matt 18)
  - Goal: Restoration
  - Bring about a holy fear regarding sin
  - Elder Board removed Mike & Pam Capaldi from membership, for unbiblical divorce.
  - Challenged the congregation to fulfill biblical roles and seek counseling if needed.

### **Ministry Reports**

In the following order, each ministry leader provided a brief review of their 2016 reports, along with vision for 2017 in accordance with the church's vision and purpose statement. They also acknowledged individuals, teams and/or staff members for their service in building God's kingdom.

#### 1) Senior Pastor – **Pastor Tim Gibson**

- 2016: New Testament exposition
- 44 New Members
- 28 Baptism
- 330 new visitors (love biblical preaching)
- 420 membership
- Shepherding emphasis
- 2 church plants (Forks Township, Naples Florida)
- BFC Ministries, on Church Extension Board, preached at Annual Conference
- Build new leaders (3 new deacons)
- 2017 Leadership (build new elders)
- Security in place Sunday morning
- 2016 disappointments, volunteerism
- New Logo just released

2) Pastor of Discipleship – **Pastor Dick Bickings**

- Grateful for the congregation, for prayers, cards and words of encouragement
- Children's Ministry: thank the Lord for volunteers for Sunday School, Awana, and VBS
- Discipleship Pool, in its infancy
- Men's & Women's Bible studies: show a hunger for the WORD
- Men's Prayer Group, slow start in 2016, but has picked up in 2017. Its purpose is to pray that God would heal our marriages, help us take the proper leadership role in the home, community, and church for the sake of the Kingdom of God
- Youth Ministry:
  - Mark Evans is doing a tremendous job teaching the MS & HS youth the book of Romans
  - The Youth Staff has really stepped up during this time of transition to handle discipleship needs in the Youth Ministry
- Youth Pastor Search Committee update:
  - Committee members: Heather Hunsberger, Suzi Hardy, Lori Bernhardt, Pat Barry, Swannie Griffin, and Dick Bickings
  - Reviewed 17 resumes
  - 6 candidates have been advanced in the process (23 question questionnaire - Personal Information, Theological/Doctrinal Information, Ministry Information)
  - 2 candidates have completed the questionnaire to date
  - Search Committee meets every Thursday evening

3) Worship Pastor – **Pastor Jeremy Harkins**

- Thank you to the congregation for encouragement
- Worship vision statement (Rom 12:1-2)
- Worship Leadership
  - 25 worship leaders
  - 10 additional members
- Tech Team - 25 involved with simulcast
- College Ministry - seeking to grow in God's Word (8-10); 10+ Sunday School hour

4) Women's Ministry – **Laura Sommons**, *Women's Ministry Coordinator*

- Hosea 10:12
- Submission to God's will and authority
- Women's Ministry
  - Bible Studies - 70 women
  - Mom-to-Mom - 14 moms
  - MOPS
- Leadership Training
  - Linda Visco
  - Vicki Cowley
- Welcome to the Well - build relations between women
- Connecting Ministry (2017) - accountability ministry

5) Benevolence – **Keith Beyer**

- January 2016 - assisted over 25 people
- Partnered with Church plants
- Taught FPU, seeing financial benefits to those involved

- 6) Kinship – **Bob Gill**
  - Acts 2:42-46 (model for kinship)
  - Body of Christ in small groups looking out for one another
  - 2016 - 37 new adults, 15 new children
  - 2017 - new group leaders & groups
    - Refresh bulletin board
    - update technology
  
- 7) 318 Evangelism Team – **Pat Barry, Elder**
  - Reaching arms of the gospel, equipping the saints for evangelism
  - Events: Way of the Master, Harvest America, Lynfield Community Center
  - 2017: refresh the materials, update tracks, hold 3-4 evangelism workshops, mailers, accountability (monthly meetings: lesson, pray, testimonies)
  - 3-C approach (Church, Christian, Core Group)
  - Going into the community
  
- 8) Welcome Ministry – **Chris Jones, Elder**
  - Thank you to the greeters, several new people joined
  - Letter or email sent when visitors come
  - Newcomer Dessert; looking for host families
  - Thank you for welcoming attitudes
  
- 9) Missions – **Swannie Griffin, Elder**
  - Introduced the committee
  - Miracle Month - Goal: \$25K; Spent: \$26K  
Sent email letter to missionaries to request a list of their needs
  
- 10) Ministry Assimilation – **Kevin Hardy, Elder**
  - 1 Cor 12:4-6, all gifts given for God's glory
  - Equip believers to recognize their gifts and use them for God's glory
  - Networking, met 4 times last year, discipling process, then consultation to plug into ministry.
  
- 11) Deacons – **Kevin Kritzberger, Facilities Manager**
  - Blessing to serve
  - Introduced the Deacons
  - Serving countless hours
  - Thank volunteers who come alongside the Deacons
  - Challenge to Deacons: Are you a fan or a follower? Jesus calls us to be followers.

#### **Questions/Concerns**

- Pastor Mark Culton was incorrectly listed in the Annual Report as a 2017 Elder. This will be corrected by removing his name.
- 2017: where are we going; how are we being challenged; being intentional about ministry
- Question on the Vision for Worship: modern in style, theologically sound.

#### **Prayer and Adjournment**

**Motion** was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded and passed. Swannie Griffin closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pastor Dick Bickings,  
Secretary to the Board of Elders