

Moderator's Report

Congregation Meeting – November 19, 2023

Council Update –

Council will be meeting for a strategic retreat on November 24 and 25. Please be in prayer for these meetings.

Lead Pastor Search and Staffing –

There will be an update on the Lead Pastor Search during the meeting. Council and the Search Committee discerned early in the process to search for a Lead Pastor that will give overall spiritual and organizational leadership to the church and staff. To this end, staffing configurations, roles and responsibilities, particularly with associate pastor role will be finalized after a Lead Pastor is hired.

Capital Campaign Update –

At the June 4 congregational meeting, the congregation approved the commencement of a capital campaign to raise \$750,000 to assist with required repairs to the Attridge Site. The congregation approved the expenditure for HVAC replacement and repair to be paid from the Internally Restricted Reserve as a loan to be repaid from the capital campaign. Quotes have been obtained for the largest component of the HVAC replacement and repair. To date, the quotes have been within the original estimate of \$340,000.

A Capital Campaign team has been established. Brian Heagy, as moderator will serve as Council representative on the team. Rob Neufeld, Christine Magneson and Fred Matiko have consented to serve on the campaign team. All three have professional funds development experience. These individuals will be tasked with organizing and executing the campaign.

Proposed Motion – “That Rob Neufeld, Christine Magneson and Fred Matiko be approved to serve with Brian Heagy as a Capital Campaign Team.”

There will be more to follow on the capital campaign as a case for support and funds development strategy are developed.

Multi Site Update –

At the March 19, 2023 congregational meeting, the congregation was advised that we are moving in the direction of greater independence with the Gathering. The memorandum of understanding (MOU) between FGCC and the Gathering was shared. This understanding is in place until June 30, 2024, with a review of the relationship to commence in January, 2024. Council continues to engage with the Gathering based on the MOU and engaging in the relationship review.

Strategic Plan –

A current update of our strategic priorities will be provided at the meeting tables for your reference.

Mission and Vision –

As part of the transition process, we have held many meetings to discuss our journey to date, mission, vision and future direction.

Our **Mission** is determined by Scripture –

The Great Commission – Matthew 28:18-20 –

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

The Great Commandment – Matthew 22: 37-39 –

Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

Our **Vision** is a short statement that highlights the collectively discerned call on our church to carry out our mission. As we have collectively worked through this vision as a congregation, Council is bringing forward the following Vision statement for discussion and approval –

We are a covenant community experiencing the life changing power of Jesus Christ and sharing his good news from the river to the ends of the earth.

There will be more background and discussion at the meeting. Following the discussion, Council will be presenting the following proposed motion –

“That the Mission and Vision Statements as presented be approved”

Next steps –

Council, as part of our strategic retreat, will be spending some time on our **Values** – our Values will express the behavior we want to exhibit and the culture we want to create. The congregation did spend time on our values in the transition process. We will be reviewing the current and suggested values from the transition process.

All of the above, once collectively discerned, will guide our future decision making, manage ministry priorities and serve to motivate and encourage a growing church.