

## WINTER BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2019

- 1) Welcome & Call to Order Chris Bystrom  
The Winter Business meeting was called to order.
- 2) Approval of Minutes Chris Bystrom
  - a) **MOTION: Approval of Minutes of Fall General Meeting, November 27, 2019**
    - Moved: Doug Powell
    - Seconded: Timothy Ng
    - Majority voted in favour of. None abstained.
    - Motion Carried
- 3) Prayer for Heart for the City Project Anthony Brown
  - Quote from Samuel Chadwick - *The one concern of the devil is to keep Christians from praying. He fears nothing from prayerless studies, prayerless work, prayerless religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks our wisdom, but trembles when we pray.*
  - PT and CLT have agreed that the next year should be a year of prayer. Calling this 2020 vision.
  - A special prayer meeting each calendar month focused on project and future of church. 3 gatherings incorporated into regular business meetings. Other 9 gatherings will be special gatherings.
  - Bookmark: One side lists key things to be praying for during the year and on other side we have times, dates and venue for monthly prayer meetings. Meetings scheduled at different times and days to encourage everyone to attend at least 3 of these meetings.
  - Pray for 4 things: construction for ICON, Westbank and the site, displacement, capital campaign for raising funds for fittings and furnishings and year of prayer to be transformation for us as a church.
  - Split into groups and prayed.
- 4) Senior Minister Report Anthony Brown

- Report: Tend to state things as they are and the annual report is also in the same style. As we look to Jesus to build His church, we need a solid foundation. Exhorted everyone to read the Senior Minister report and come to Anthony to have conversation about it.
- Future Mission & Ministry of FBC: During Dec and Jan, I have been devoting larger part of time to reading and writing about the church's future. We have now drafted together a 10 year objectives. A set of documents on future of church in this city, future of new generations ministry, etc. Goal is to understand the direction the Holy Spirit wants the church to take. Documents extended from older documents. Plans are open to modification as we begin to work and pray. Often things need to be demolished to set space for new things to be built. Lord is concerned with what needs to be built and not with what need to be ended. Quote from Jonathan Wilson: *"The missional congregation prays itself into God's mission in the world, it doesn't plan its way into God's work"*. The Lord will continue to speak as we pray and seek Him.
- Worship: Task Group setup in December by CLT. Meeting monthly to talk about challenges presented to worship by shift in post-modernity, future and expansion of worship and music ministries, strength and weaknesses of our current ways of organizing our worship ministries and parts of the ministries that require professional leadership. Expect to be on schedule for making recommendations to CLT by Easter. Lots of worship leaders are doing extra work. Special mention to Kurtis and Katie Findlay who have taken on extra tasks.
- Church Unity: 3 other Bible believing, evangelical churches downtown came together and came up with a statement to express intention to work together. One immediate consequence is the joint Good Friday service with Coastal Church has expanded to include Westside Church and St. Peter's Fireside as well. David Koop, pastor of Coastal Church and who has ministered in Downtown since 1994 says this is really significant. We hosted the Baptist monthly ministerial today in this very room.
- Questions:
  1. Rose-Marie Goodwin: Where is the Good Fri service? Anthony Brown: 9am & 11am at Westside church
  2. Fred Liebich: Is the worship tasks document open to discussion? Anthony Brown: Just a guideline for worship leaders

## 5) Treasurer Report

Laine Bosma

- First year of being treasurer. Learnt a lot and had the pleasure. Speak highly of Steve, Justin, Teck-Ngee and Mary who helped to learn the process.
- Update from 2019 Financial statements: Attendance flat trajectory over 2018 to 2019. Not many fluctuations over the last year or so. In the last 12 months, a slow rise and then a relative plateauing from lent onwards. Stable attendance on week to week basis.
- Budgeted giving was 1,712,922. Increased 5.8% over a year. Included a budgeted gift of \$75,000 from First Baptist Foundation in 2019. Total revenue was up 63,853.
- Salaries and benefits were up by \$38,412 or 4% while other expenses were down \$104,092 or 12.1% by Overall decrease of expenses of \$65,680 or 3.6% compared to 2018.
- \$72,205 Surplus for 2019 which included budgeted \$75,000 transfer from FBF.
- Cash Balance - \$714,479 (\$606,975 in 2018).
- Cash balance decreases throughout the year before rebounding in December.
- Average month-end cash balance - \$538,976 which is equated to 3.5 months of budgeted expenses. Our goal is to maintain a cash balance equal to 3 months. The increase in cash balance in 2019 is mostly related to various HFTC project fund transfers that occurred at the end of 2018 and the beginning of 2019, but given our financial exposure related the upcoming uncertainty with the HFTC project and displacement, it is prudent to watch this number closely.
- 2019 special offerings totaled \$46,645, up \$18,162 or 64% compared to 2018. Increased giving is testament to the congregation's commitment
- 2020 Easter offering will be going to Keats camp. Stay tuned for more information.
- FBC cash assets at the end of 2019:
  - o Benevolence Fund: \$7,501
  - o Bequest Fund: \$293,244 – unchanged
  - o Liberia Fund: \$53,740 – \$37,979 in 2018
  - o Mission & Justice Fund: \$35,000 – unchanged

- Minister's Housing Fund: \$245,735 – \$271,440 in 2018
- Building Project Fund: \$1,208,064 – \$1,254,235 in 2018
- Pastoral Staff Wellness Fund: \$8,666 – initial balance of \$10,000
- Others: ~\$9,342

- Malachi 3:10

“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.”

- Questions:

3. John Goodwin: Objective for Pastoral Staff Wellness Fund? Person: Special donor interested in specific money to help support the PT and help them grow.
4. Peter Findlay: Thank you for announcing Easter offering early on. It would be good if there is clarity on special offering cause.
5. Janet Paterson: Why just Keats and not Keats & Kinbrace? Answer: Focus on benefitting one organization. Justin: Other thing we do to support Kinbrace is Ride for Refuge, where we raised \$8500.

6) Nominating Committee Report and Prayer for the New Leaders

Susan Ting

- In Review report on lay leaders who completed term and are leaving for rest.
- Apologize for mistake on Pg 40 for missing Sarah Kawamura.
- Added bio of all CLT & MAT members in report to know them better. Pick up bio and pray for them as they serve.

**a) MOTION: That the following candidates be approved for Church Leadership Team and Ministry Area Team members for 2020, as outlined in the 2019 In Review Report**

- CLT officers:
  - Claudia Wakeman (Moderator)
  - James Goulden (Vice-Moderator)
  - Laine Bosma (Treasurer - Term two, Year four)

- Trung Duong (Director-at-Large - Term one, Year one)
- Leona Adams (Director-at-Large - Term one, Year one)
- Susan Ting (Director-at-Large - Term one, Year four)
- New Generations
  - Jonathan Lim (Term one, Year one)
  - Sarah Kawamura (Term one, Year one)
- Mission and Justice
  - Marjorie Cox (Term one, Year one)
- Moved: Susan Ting
- Seconded: Jack Larson
- Majority voted in favour of. None abstained.
- Motion Carried
- Susan Ting, Lilac Hawkey and Anthony Brown prayed for CLT & MAT members

7) New Business

Chris Bystrom

- No new business

8) Passing the Torch to the New Moderator

Chris Bystrom & Claudia Wakeman

- We don't do church easy here but the benefit is how invested everyone is in this church. Your dedication and service is inspiring to me. It is humbling that you entrusted me to be moderator. Thank you for support and kind words. I know you will be equally supportive of Claudia.
- Moderator's bible passed from Chris Bystrom to Claudia Wakeman. Tradition of ex-moderator writing a verse for the new moderator. Chris' verse is 1 Cor 3:5-9 as this verse guided Chris in that CLT & PT work together and serve together. Claudia showed wonderful leadership. It is a great pleasure to pass the torch to Claudia and know that congregation will support Claudia.
- Claudia gave Chris a gift to say thank you. Acknowledged the magnificent job that Chris had done and gave the gift of love from the church.
- Claudia: I am so struck with how much I love this church. God has gifted me and blessed me so many times over and over individually and also as a church. He has also taught me about His faithfulness and His love, that He will guide us and

will tell us whether to go to the left or to the right. As we come to a new season of leadership, I trust He will guide us and that is what I expect He will do for each one of us. We are grateful for the people God has given to us. We look forward to seeing what God is going to do in the next ten years. Ken and I have been making this decision. I am not here alone, I have Ken behind me. I ask you to pray that we are all filled with wisdom and grace – one needs the other and is useless without the other. Pray we step out and God will give us His wisdom and His grace. We look forward to seeing what He is going to do in the next few years.

9) Motion to Terminate

Chris Bystrom

- Moved: Chris Bystrom
- Seconded: Laine Bosma
- Majority voted in favour. None abstained.