



Combined Board of Elders & Deacons Meeting October 24, 2011

Roll Call:

- Elders Present: Hoy, Bickings, Culton, Batten, Brimer, Capaldi, Sommons
- Elders Excused: Van Doren
- Deacons Present: Christiansen, Eckel, George Hardy, Kritzberger, Lee, Meier, Romero
- Deacons Excused: Mark Hardy
- Deacons Absent: Kalubi, Lofthouse, Sherer
- Special Guest Present: Pastor Carl Cassel

Prayer:

The men shared in a time of prayer and thanksgiving to open the meeting.

Vision Casting Discussion:

Pastor Jason Hoy facilitated a discussion with the Deacons and Elders regarding our work to recast the proper vision and purpose for Ebenezer. This has been a recent exercise, initiated by the Board of Elders, so it was important to get the input from the Deacons as well. Below are some highlights of the discussion:

- Jason reiterated the stated purpose of the church as outlined in the BFC Articles of Faith: **Article 18-2** – “The purpose of the Church is to worship God, to edify the saints and to evangelize the world.”
- The Elders and Deacons provided their candid feedback on how we are currently performing in these three areas.
- This was a productive session and the men agreed that we should continue it in the coming weeks and months. This was useful just prior to evaluating our 2012 budget proposal. It allowed us to focus resources on the true purpose of the church.

2012 Budget Review:

Andy Brimer and Mike Capaldi, Elders and Co-Treasurers presented the consolidated 2012 budget proposal which had been submitted by the various ministry leaders, deacons, elders and staff. Below are some highlights regarding the submission:

- The original 2012 submission was approximately \$940,000 which represented a 2% increase from the approved budget for 2011.
- Y-T-D giving through October 19, 2011 showed that we would likely fall short by approximately 7% for 2011 which lowers our 2012 forecast to \$855,000. This means we would need to reduce our expenses from the original submission for 2012 by over \$85,000.
- The remaining conversation was a frank discussion on where we could reduce our planned 2012 spending within reason and without compromising important ministry needs. Several options were discussed and some agreements were made immediately. These included, but were not limited to the following:
 - Removal of the budgeted capital improvements budget with the agreement that such expenses would need to be funded from our savings in 2012.
 - Removing the first quarter compensation costs from the Senior Pastor position because it is unlikely that a person from the outside could begin before such a time.
 - Other ministries such as Discipleship and Deacons offered additional reductions during the discussion.

- At the end of the session, all Deacons and Elders who manage a portion of the budget agreed to go away and review their submission to find further reductions and provide them to the Treasurers.
- The Deacons and Elders agreed to a bulletin insert to the congregation announcing the Congregational Meeting on December 11, 2011 for reviewing and approving the budget. In addition, they agreed to announce our current shortfall in 2011 giving to the congregation in a similar manner.

Adjournment:

The men closed in prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Capaldi', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mike Capaldi

Secretary to the Board of Elders