

## Quarterly Business Meeting

October 30, 2022, 4 PM at Faith West

Elder Nate Walter welcomed all to the meeting, and he and Pastor Thomas Slawson opened with singing "In Christ Alone."

Elder Chair Grant Wall welcomed questions on the previous meeting minutes. Todd Holthaus made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Bruce Watley. The motion was carried by voice vote. Financial update: through three quarters, we have inflows of \$1.08 million, which is \$7,000 better than budget in inflows. Expenses are \$997,000, which is \$105,000 better than expected. Combined, we are \$112,000 better than expected at this point. For West Campus alone, we are negative \$14,000 at this point (with negative \$35,000 expected in our budget at this point). We have had \$86,000 more in inflows this year than last year at West Campus. As we plan for next year's budget, we will attempt to separate the two campus finances more to get a clear picture of finances.

Elders Bob Sneller and James Haugaard welcomed new member candidates to the front: Dennis & Loretha Webber, Dan & Shaina Scott, Cole & Morgan Austin, Tate & Grace Schrock, and Rollan & Maria Wengert. Verses that these elders picked for each couple were shared aloud. Rex Pommier made a motion to approve the members, Jim Olson seconded, and the motion was carried by voice vote. The membership covenant was read aloud by all in attendance.

Elder Ryan Decker recognized the nominating committee: Eileen Winter, Robin Long, Laura Rupp, Pastor Dana Olson, and Ryan Decker. Ryan talked through the ballot and explained that we are adding more names to the ballot this year in preparation for the West Campus to be its own autonomous church.

Pastor Jayson Wittrup welcomed everyone again to Faith West. Jayson announced that as Ben Whitley becomes an elder, he will be stepping down as our tech director at Faith West. Tim Hanson will be stepping in as tech director in his place. Jayson presented an update on the transition for West Campus. We've been one church in two locations, with many shared resources and activities. We are slowly transitioning to two churches with one mission, Faith Baptist Fellowship and Risen Hope Baptist Church. We will go live with Risen Hope Baptist Church on April 9, 2023, Resurrection Sunday. What's already changed? Staffing additions and changes: Pastor Jimmy, Christi Wittrup (dedicated to the west office), and Rob Johns (dedicated custodian for West Campus). Our west-side office is established. What happens on April 9? New signs, website, printed materials, wall-wrap décor, and a postcard mailing to our neighborhood – mostly external changes. What stays the same? A joint elder board, budget, combined business meetings, shared ministry activities, our vision and mission, and the 5 loves and 5 commitments. New Name. New Look. Same Church!

### Faith Baptist Fellowship Ballot – 10/30/2022 Business Meeting

*You must be a church member and 18 years of age or older to vote.*

The Nominating Committee brings forth these candidates to fill the following positions and seeks ratification by the church body.

*(Please place an X to the left of each candidate that you concur with to fill that position.)*

West Campus Elder (4-year term/thru 2025):	_____	<b>Collin Long</b>
West Campus Elder (4-year term/thru 2025):	_____	<b>Ben Whitley</b>
South Campus Elder (4-year term/thru 2025):	_____	<b>Leigh Tange</b>
Treasurer:	_____	<b>Matt Paulson</b>
Treasurer:	_____	<b>Curt Lindstrom</b>
Clerk:	_____	<b>Christi Wittrup</b>
Financial Secretary:	_____	<b>Max Masters</b>
Assistant Financial Secretary:	_____	<b>Lee Konvalin</b>
Assistant Financial Secretary:	_____	<b>Sherry Ross</b>
Assistant Financial Secretary:	_____	<b>Susan Oksol</b>
Assistant Financial Secretary:	_____	<b>April Thompson</b>
Financial Review Team (3-year term/thru 2024):	_____	<b>Darold Frieze</b>
Financial Review Team (3-year term/thru 2025):	_____	<b>Sam Anderson</b>
Financial Review Team (3-year term/thru 2025):	_____	<b>Andrew Kaiser</b>

The Nominating Committee brings forth eight (8) candidates for selection of four Nominating Committee Member at large positions.

*(Please vote by placing an X to the left of two (2) candidates to fill that position from each campus.)*

<b>West</b>		
Nominating Committee (3-year term/thru 2025):	_____	<b>Scott Williams</b>
Nominating Committee (3-year term/thru 2025):	_____	<b>Gabe Johnson</b>
Nominating Committee (3-year term/thru 2025):	_____	<b>Angela Hoekman</b>
Nominating Committee (3-year term/thru 2025):	_____	<b>Ellie Salter</b>
<b>South</b>		
Nominating Committee (3-year term/thru 2025):	_____	<b>Raquel Jahnke</b>
Nominating Committee (3-year term/thru 2025):	_____	<b>Deb Weller</b>
Nominating Committee (3-year term/thru 2025):	_____	<b>Rick Boeder</b>
Nominating Committee (3-year term/thru 2025):	_____	<b>Tony Brynjulson</b>

Elder Todd Holthaus talked about the unique position the church is in with the lead time to find a new senior pastor. Todd welcomed the proposed search team members to the front: Matt Thompson (leader), Brian Bennett (absent), Dennis Cromwell, Jed Fong, Raquel Jahnke, Eileen Winter, Leslie Masters, Jessie Manson, Linda Schilling (liaison), and elder Mark Hecht. Tim Patterson made a motion to approve the search committee, Dean Born seconded the motion. The motion was carried by voice vote. Todd prayed for the team and the church through this process.

Angela Myers gave an update on youth and children's ministries. Activities have slowed down since the summer and they are happy to be in the routine of the school year. She introduced Josh Stibral, our new youth discipleship intern. Josh then shared more information about himself and his background.

Pastor Dana announced the results of the ballot. All those on the top half were affirmed. The following people were confirmed for the nominating committee: Scott Williams, Angela Hoekman, Raquel Jahnke, and Rick Boeder. Dana then talked through the changes in the Converge Heartland Affirmation of Faith. (See attached pages.) He believes the changes are an improvement. These changes will be a change to our constitution. Our by-laws require 90 days before a vote. Our annual celebration is 89 days from now. We would like your final approval at that meeting. Grace is requested for those 24 hours. Dana then gave an encouragement to **P.A.U.S.E.** P is for **pray**. Let us continue to soak this time in earnest prayer. A is to **anticipate** with excitement the ways that God will lead us and guide us. U is for **unite**. Please continue to be united around the biblical preaching of the gospel, our 5 loves and commitments, and our mission and vision. S is to **stand** true to Jesus and the body of Jesus Christ, the church. Stand with us in these days of change. E is to **expect** some of the discomfort that comes with change and enjoy it! Let's be faithful to our calling. Pastor Dana prayed a prayer of thanksgiving and for the changes ahead.

Elder Nate Walter and Pastor Thomas led in singing "Be Thou My Vision."

*Submitted by Christi Wittrup, Church Clerk*

## Converge Heartland AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**3.1 The Word of God.** We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error in the original manuscripts, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that it has supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

**3.2 The Trinity.** We believe that there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three persons, that these are equal in every divine perfection, and that they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence and redemption.

**3.3. God the Father.** We believe in God, the Father, an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. We believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of each person, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

**3.4 Jesus Christ.** We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles and teachings. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and personal visible return to earth.

**3.5 The Holy Spirit.** We believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ, and that He is an abiding helper, teacher and guide.

**3.6 Humanity.** We believe God created humankind immutably as male and female to reflect and bear His image. As such, human beings of every ethnicity, age, ability, as well as the pre-born deserve dignity, protection, honor, respect, and Christian love. Because of Adam and Eve's free choice to sin, God's image in all humankind has become distorted and relationship with God has become disrupted.

**3.7 Regeneration.** We believe that all people are sinners by nature and by choice and are, therefore, under condemnation. We believe that those who repent of their sins and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit.

**3.8 The Ordinances.** We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local Church: baptism and the Lord's Supper. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water into the name of the triune God. We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by Christ for commemoration of His death. We believe that these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**3.9 The Church.** We believe in the universal Church, a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head and all regenerated persons are members. We believe in the local Church, consisting of a company of believers in Jesus Christ, baptized on a credible profession of faith, and associated for worship, work, and fellowship. We believe that God has laid upon the members of the local Church the primary task of giving the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost world.

**3.10 Christian Conduct.** We believe that Christians should live for the glory of God and the well-being of others; that their conduct should be blameless before the world; that they should be faithful stewards of their possessions; and that they should seek to realize for themselves and others the full stature of maturity in Christ.

**3.11 Christian Marriage.** We believe that Christian marriage is a sacred institution ordained by God for the well-being of mankind and the propagation of the human race. It is the spiritual and physical union of one man and one

woman according to Scripture. *We believe that Christian marriage is a sacred institution ordained by God for the well-being and propagation of humankind. It is a covenant representing the spiritual and physical union into which one man and one woman may enter for the glory of God, symbolizing the relationship of Christ to his church. As the sign of this covenant, sexual activity is reserved exclusively for the marriage relationship. According to the scriptural ideal, marriage requires sacrificial love and faithfulness to each other for life.*

**3.12 Religious Liberty.** We believe that every human being has direct relations with God, and is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith; that each Church is independent and must be free from interference by any ecclesiastical or political authority; that, therefore, church and state must be kept separate as having different functions, each fulfilling its duties free from dictation or patronage of the other.

**3.13 Church Cooperation.** We believe that local Churches can best promote the cause of Jesus Christ by cooperating with one another in an association of churches. Such an organization, whether it is Converge **Worldwide** (formerly known as the Baptist General Conference) or one of its regional districts, exists and functions by the will of the Churches. Cooperation in the association is voluntary and may be terminated at any time. Churches may likewise cooperate with interdenominational fellowships on a voluntary independent basis.

**3.14 The Last Things.** We believe in the personal and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to earth and the establishment of His Kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the eternal felicity of the righteous, and the endless suffering of the wicked.