

Congregational Meeting 11/16/2014

At 6:20 pm Chairman Bruce Rhodes opened the meeting with prayer.

Financial Report – David Cartwright

An *Income Statement* and *Statement of Financial Position* was available as a handout for members. Overall our financial position is strong. The general fund operating income shows a loss of \$25,950 but we expected a loss of \$66,478 at this point in the fiscal year. Our total income year to date is \$670,782 which is \$21,924 above budget.

The audit of our financial records received an unqualified clean opinion. Some recommendations were given to improve our internal controls. The audit gives an independent and objective view of our finances; we can trust the financial reporting of the church.

At 6:30 pm a quorum was achieved with 124 members signed in.

The minutes from the September/October congregational meetings were accepted.

New Members – Carol Van Der Woude

MOTION was made by the board to accept the following persons into membership:

Con Campbell	David Mozdin
Kyle & Lydia Jodrey	Janet Paras
Anthony & Lori Liang	Bob Schroeder

The proposed members were accepted by a voice vote.

Election

Nominations by the nominating committee were introduced. Voting took place with paper ballots. Officers and elders for the coming year were elected. [all candidates on the ballot were elected]

The following were elected:

Howard Wiese - Elder

Becky Howell - Deacon

Mike Mammoser - Deacon

Nathan Habeck - Deacon

Laurel Culver – Financial Secretary

Carol Van Der Woude – Clerk

Senior Pastor Report – David Jones

Attendance

Our average from Jan through July was 814 people. In Aug, our attendance dipped as the Bridge was starting to hold practice services. Over the next three months (Aug – Oct) we averaged 721. Already in Nov, we have begun to bounce back. The last two weekends we have had a similar number of worshipers here as we did to prior the launch of the Bridge (810). Last weekend in particular was notable, because the combined attendance of VCB and the Bridge was nearly a thousand people. I rejoice to see the expansion of God's kingdom. This is one of the reasons why we are committed to planting churches.

Church Planting

It is our intention, Lord willing, to take on two church planters next Sept for an eight-month residency like we did with Todd. They would then plant in the Fall of 2016. I am actively recruiting now, and we already have a couple of interesting prospects. Pray that the Lord would lead us to the men whom he is calling and that he would lead us to specific communities.

You can also pray for the *Reach Chicago* church planting network that we are starting in conjunction with five other churches in the area. It is our goal to plant a new church in every community of the Northwest Suburbs bigger than 10,000 people, starting with those communities that have little or no Gospel witness.

Building Project

We had hoped to be able to present a solid plan at this meeting, but we are still doing our due diligence. Please be patient with us. This project had lain fallow for about a year, and when we picked it up again a few months ago, we found that some of the data was now two years old. So we need to bring everything up-to-date and make sure that the project truly addresses our most pressing needs. This is a large project, and it will likely involve a large amount of money. So we want to get it right. Please pray for us to that end.

When we are ready to roll out a conceptual plan, we will host a number of town hall meetings to show the concept and to get feedback from the congregation. We will likely have two congregational votes—one to begin a capital campaign and a second one to authorize spending the money, once it has been raised in gifts and pledges.

You can still help with the building project now. As you think about end-of-year giving, it would be a huge blessing if you would consider giving to our building fund, in anticipation of future renovations and new construction. Of course, we need to make sure that the general fund is fully funded. But would you please consider a special gift, over and above your regular giving, so we can continue the work of renovation that has already begun. Thanks for your consideration.

Constitution Revision – Bruce Rhodes

A draft of the constitution will go on the VCB website this week for review. Areas of significant change include: division into articles and bylaws; clarification of roles for congregation, deacons, elders, staff and ministry teams; 2 mandated congregational meetings per year; the process for approving new members.

Meetings will be scheduled to discuss the proposed changes.

A time of prayer took place in small groups.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm

