

August Council Report

The August meeting convened at 7:00 pm on August 16, 2016. We again began with personal stories of how we have seen God at work in our lives. There were stories of a medical miracle, trust in times of anxiety, freedom and peace of mind amid chaotic environments and circumstances, the abundance of God's blessings, a Samaritan's Purse mission trip to Alaska to build a church and parsonage, answered prayers for God's protection over Allison Smoak during the pregnancy and delivery of their new son, and patience in waiting for God to reveal His plans.

Brad then led us in our continuing discussion of the book "7 Practices of Effective Ministry". We digressed a bit to put more focus on a previously discussed concept called "clarifying the win." This is essentially a goal setting and measuring process that lets us know when we have accomplished our stated vision, mission, intent, etc. It is a process that should be applied at every level of management, ministry, and mission in an organization. It is like quality control in a manufacturing environment in that it promotes effectiveness and efficiency in every step of the manufacturing process.

After staff and Council discussions, we decided our overriding mission is to be disciples making disciples. (Since we are, or should be, in the business of "manufacturing", or making disciples, it follows that the manufacturing analogy is appropriate.) Given that this is to be the foundation undergirding all we do at FCC, then every unit involved must be doing their work with this in mind. Each unit must ask itself, "How will what I am doing at the tactical level lead to "disciples making disciples?"

The Council is a unit of the church. Thus, it is incumbent on us, along with staff, to take the lead in this process. Prior to next month's meeting, each of us will be thinking and praying and recording our thoughts as to what the "win" will look like for the Council. From these individual perspectives, we will construct a collective, concise, clear definition of our "WIN". Please be in prayer that God will endow us with vision, clarity of thought, discernment, and patience as we work toward this end.

Following approval of our Consent Agenda, and financial reports, we received reports on the following items:

- As liaison to Worship, Kavan reported the Worship Team is very excited to be getting individual IPADS for use as "personal monitor mixers" which will significantly enhance rehearsals and making changes on the fly.
- As liaison to Facilities, Pat reported that he is researching options for replacing carpet in the main aisles of the sanctuary as there are some areas that could be a safety hazard. Pat also reported that the new air conditioner for the south end of the building will be installed this week.
- As liaison to Youth, JD reported on a successful Youth mission trip, and on Nick's transition into his new position as Director of Youth and Outreach.

- Mark, Carolyn, and Athele reported on the 2-day Leadership Summit they recently attended. It was hosted by River Valley Church in Rosemount, and attended by both secular and Christian people and groups.
- JD reported on the visit he, Carol, and John Bennett made to Sheep Dog Church Security. The Council believes FCC security has to be given even more attention in view of general societal events, as well as a couple of recent events south of the river. We can expect to hear more about this going forward.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 following the closing prayer by Athele.