

October 2016 Council Report

The Council Meeting convened at 7:03 pm on Oct. 18th. Brad led us in a *lectio divina* session with Psalm 63. This process involves two readings of the scripture, each followed by a period of silent meditation and reflection; then a third reading followed by individual observations of passages from the Psalm that held particular significance for each individual. Try it with your family or small group sometime. It may lead to some stimulating discussions. Brad then took prayer requests and led us in a focused prayer session on individual needs and problems.

We next continued with the discussion on what constitutes a “win” for the Council according to the book 7 Practices of Effective Ministry. At Brad’s suggestion, the discussion will be tabled until the Council can meet with a consultant for a three hour training seminar on how to go about seeking spiritual discernment.

Following acceptance of the Consent Agenda and the September Financial Report, we discussed Pastor Char’s application for a Sabbatical Leave as provided for in our FCC Employee Handbook. She is in compliance with the requirements of this policy, and, at her ordination ceremony it was recommended that she pursue it at her earliest convenience. Her application was approved. Details will be forthcoming.

We next considered a recommendation from Pastor Brad and President Mark to engage an architect, Station 19 Church Planning, Architecture, and Interiors, to consult with on a Master Plan document in conjunction with Phase 3 of our Responsible Church Makeover initiative. This firm was chosen from 3 who were invited to submit proposals. They come highly recommended by a number of church bodies in the south metro area.

Council authorized an expenditure of funds not to exceed \$17,500, taken from our RCM account, to fund a report from Station 19 that will include results of interviews with staff and leadership; a comprehensive analysis of existing facilities; a report on how regional demographics might influence our process; analysis of existing code compliance; and development of several options accompanied by conceptual plans and site drawings to illustrate the options. We are moving forward trusting in the Lord to guide us as we consider the next 50 years at FCC!

JD led a brief discussion of his ongoing work on Church Security. The goal of his work is to develop a comprehensive plan that will cover all major issues we might have to contend with at some point. There will be more on this to come.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 and closed in prayer by Mark.