

ELDER MEETING MINUTES

December 18, 2025

Present:

Elders: Jon, Mike, Chris and Blair (via Zoom)

Elder Advisors: David Belgum, Karen Stothers

Absent: Joe

Meeting began at 6:00pm

1. Something to Consider
 - Agreed to pause on Lead with Prayer devotional discussion until our new Elder Advisors join us in January. We'll pick up with Chapter 3.
2. Prayer: shared personal requests and prayed together, including these requests from the body.
3. Housing allowance needs to be formally approved before end of year (Dec 31st)
 - Need a written request and an elder vote to approve. Mike will initiate the process via email.
4. Approval of minutes from 11/6. Mike motioned to approve and Jon seconded and Chris and Blair agreed.
5. Youth JD/Hire Task Force - Chris
 - JD has been posted today (18 Dec). Joe assisting.
<https://recruiterflow.com/wonderbench/jobs/95>
 - A search committee has been assembled. First meeting scheduled on Monday Dec 22nd.
 - Chris to follow-up to complete the committee.
6. Elder/Pastor relationships/oversight
 - We discussed past challenges and what model may allow broader visibility.
 - Regular evaluations and reports to the board to help with accountability.
 - Jon proposed he continue to spend time with Chris for continuity between senior pastor and chairman of the board. They both agreed for 2026.
 - Jon proposed Blair spend time with Tanya, and Blair agreed and will reach out to her.
7. Treasurer role with Joe's departure as an elder:
 - Mike proposed that David Belgum continue to assist him, potentially in the role Joe previously played as Treasurer.
 - We discussed the officer of the Treasurer role and whether it's required to be an Elder. Chris reviewed the by-laws, and it's not entirely clear if the Treasurer has to be an Elder. He'll follow-up to clarify.
 - We agreed to Jon assuming the role of Treasurer as well as Chairman.
 - David will assume the role of the Assistant Treasurer.
8. Deacons
 - Tanya prepared a "Deacon oversight, roles, and responsibilities" document.
 - It includes a visitation role and Deacon board roles (Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary)

- Blair did not yet have access to the doc, so he will review it and then we'd like to approve it and move forward.
 - Other candidates were discussed. Chris and Jon to follow-up.
- 9. Update on Strategic Plan - Chris
 - Chris has met with Jan and Jerry to assist
 - Prayer focused church: Cassie doing a great job leading this effort
 - Monthly prayer meetings (3rd Tues): Elders encouraged to attend
 - Consistent group faithfully attending
 - NextGen work is on hold given job search
 - Community/World outreach going well on multiple fronts
 - Program management assistance and a proposed candidate has been asked.
 - The role is to provide a reporting framework for each area owner to update, so we have a summary status report to review/share.
 - Mike raised the need to raise more visibility to the body on progress being made.
- 10. Additional Elder advisors for 2026
 - Karen Stothers has joined us!
 - Other candidates asked and agreed.
- 11. Agenda for 1/15/25 Meeting
 - 2026 elder documents/agreements - Mike
 - We'll have a formal business meeting to meet the needs of the State.
- 12. Karen closed us in prayer at 8:05pm.