

**FOSTER-TUKWILA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
January 28, 2018 – 12:15 P.M.**

Opening Prayer

Reading of Minutes

Review the Printed Reports

Election of Elders

Election of Deacons

Election of 2018 Nominating Committee Members

Review of the 2018 Budget

Old Business

New Business

Closing Prayer

**CORPORATION MEETING (Immediately Following)**

Opening Prayer

Reading of Minutes

Election of Trustee, Class of 2020

Old Business

New Business

Closing Prayer

## **PASTOR'S REPORT - 2017**

God must have an incredible sense of humor. Here I am, a guy who doesn't particularly love change, serving as your transitional pastor – a role that is virtually defined by change. God probably thinks it's funny. Or maybe it's just that He knows what is best.

2017 has been a year for embracing change at FTPC. Last January, Pastor Nick wrote the pastor's report. A few weeks later, he announced his decision to follow God's calling into retirement mid-year. That set in motion all kinds of changes for Foster along with the significant change for me of following God's calling out of retirement for a season. A pastoral transition is an adventure, and for many at FTPC, it is a new adventure into strange territory. For me there has been joy in accepting your invitation to serve as your under-shepherd in that adventure.

I stepped into this role in July agreeing to a two-thirds time position. Perhaps my biggest challenge has been trying to figure out what two-thirds actually looks like. I have tried to focus my time and energy in three main areas: proclaiming the Word, working with leaders, and shepherding the flock.

I have preached about three-fourths of the Sundays (21 of 27 from July to December) and was physically present for half of the other Sundays. Teaching has focused on Moses and the Exodus, which has been an appropriate topic for us in this transition. For Advent we left Moses at Sinai and covered some of the Biblical songs of Advent.

The hours I have spent with leaders have been a joy. FTPC is blessed with elders who are sensitive to the Holy Spirit, to one another, and to the congregation as a whole. Even when we have dealt with difficult topics, working with Session, the Mission Study Team, So Won, and other leaders have consistently been a blessing to me.

Valerie and I have enjoyed getting to know you better and praying with and for you regularly. We're thankful to have been able to host many of you in our home and welcome your visits.

We are in the midst of this transitional journey; the Mission Study Team has completed its work, and we are launching the Pastor Nominating Committee. During the journey, I'm glad to be able to affirm that FTPC continues to be a healthy, gracious, praying congregation where God is at work. I thank Him and you for the privilege of leading and serving during this season of transition.

In Christ's love,



*Pastor Malcolm*

## **NOMINATING IMPACT TEAM - 2017**

The Nominating Committee is charged with the task of prayerfully approaching and asking members of FTPC to serve terms as elders or deacons. The following individuals will be presented to the congregation as nominees for elder and deacon positions.

### **Elders Class of 2019**

*(one position still pending at deadline for this report)*

### **Elders Class of 2020**

Micah Linscott

Kim McCoy

## Deacons Class of 2019

Nina McGruder

## Deacons Class of 2020

Evelyn Rutledge

*(two positions still pending at deadline for this report)*

Nominating Committee Members: Lynette Hutchinson, Janice Myrick: *Congregation at large*; Gin Opel: *Deacons*; and Brian Linscott: *Session*

## CLERK'S REPORT - 2017

### Ecclesiastes 3:1

*There is a time for everything,  
and a season for every activity under heaven:*

**We have been living the truth of this scripture at Foster this year as we reflect on this season of transition. We have experienced:**

- A Time...** of transition from PCUSA to ECO. (A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians)
- A Time...** in March of receiving Pastor Nick's request for retirement at the end of June.
- A Time...** of saying good bye to Nick and Jeanette Krantz after nearly 39 years of pastoring at Foster. In saying goodbye, we had opportunity to meet for dessert and sharing at the Krantz home.
- A Time...** for a celebration retirement party with thankful hearts for all the Lord has done in our midst through the years.
- A Time....** when session met with Pastor Malcolm Brewer and Valerie and invited him/them to be Foster's Transitional Pastor.
- A Time....** of getting better acquainted through monthly birthday celebrations with Malcolm and Valerie at their home.
- A Time....** To form a **Mission Study Team** who so faithfully met and developed a statement of who we are which will be a tool for use as we start the pastor seeking process.
- A Time....** For leveling the platform and adding railing to the side door entryway.
- A Time...** of planning and preparing for new carpet (we're almost there.)
- A Time...** when elders have been challenged to "keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers..." Acts 20:28
- A Time...** to nominate a **Pastor Nominating Committee** who will begin the process of discerning the person the Lord has called to be Foster's next pastor.
- A Time...** to say good bye to three of our elderly faithful who went to be with the Lord; Ernie Klue in February, Marian Glessner in November and Francis Klue in December.
- A Time....** to celebrate three baptisms; Mikayla Kato, Stella Bustamante, and Isaac Eaton.
- A Time...** To praise God that He never changes, that He faithfully watches over and leads us, that He calls us into relationship with himself, each other, the community and the world as we serve him advancing the Kingdom of God.
  
- A Time....** **to continue to pray, be watchful and strengthen one another in the faith. He's in our midst and He's not through with us yet.**

*Bea Eaton, Clerk of Session*

## **FINANCE IMPACT TEAM 2017**

Change is probably our theme for last year, with Pastor Nick's retirement foremost. In addition to Nick and Jeanette's absence, we continue to miss the fellowship of those God has called to move on to other pastures. Changes in FTPC's demographics is something we will always have. From the financial IT's perspective, it reminds us that God is ultimately our source of all we need.

In 2016 we embarked on entering the electronic giving age with the PushPay (PP) software available on our website and on smart phones. After having a full year to evaluate it, we determined to continue with the program for another year. I briefly ran the numbers for 2017. PP accounted for 14.7% of total giving. Of the \$26,334 given, it cost \$974 (3.7%) in transaction fees and \$1440 (5.5%) in PP service fees. We want to continue offering electronic options for giving. The question for 2018 is whether we stay with PP or find a less costly service to handle the transactions. One advantage to using PP is that it allows us to have a link on our website that directs people to an online giving portal. Another option for electronic giving several people use, is your bank's bill pay system which has no cost associated.

The changes at FTPC has had an impact on our finances for 2017. Total giving was \$179,334, while expenses were \$187,904 for a net loss of \$8,569. This in no way breaks our bank account but it does reflect the change in our church. Looking ahead is difficult with not knowing when we will call a new pastor. So, for the 2018 budget we had to include the full cost of what might be our next pastor's salary. In reality, we are only paying Pastor Malcolm 2/3rds of what Nick's salary was. This is reflected in the number at the bottom of the 2018 budget of \$188,790. A couple changes we have made to reduce costs in the coming years are the purchase, rather than lease, of a new copier and renegotiating the phone/internet service.

*Brian Linscott, Finance IT*

## **FACILITIES ANNUAL REPORT 2017**

It's been a busy year for facilities and I would like to thank all of you who put in time and effort behind the scenes without praise or recognition. It is this volunteer spirit and love for Gods house that has characterized FTPC for 100+ years.

The most recent project for FTPC has been repairing the failed railing at the main entrance of the church and installing a new railing (skillfully fabricated from scratch by one of FTPC's faithful volunteers) at the North-East entrance. This work was accompanied by the raising and leveling of the sagging porch at the North-East entrance.

Carpet has been on the agenda for many years and thanks to more volunteer effort that goal is closer than it has ever been. It is now simply a matter of choosing a color combination and giving Empire Carpet the green light.

Within the process of choosing carpet there was also a discussion around replacing the pews with chairs. These kinds of decisions can often be contentious and divisive but in the end a decision was made absent any infighting or strife. Praise Jesus and blessings to those who accepted the decision gracefully and positively regardless of their own desires.

2017 was the year of appliances. We replaced two refrigerators, one dishwasher, conducted two oven repairs and replaced a toilet. I will break code briefly to mention a name; Ella. Yes, Ella (our daughter) has been learning the volunteer spirit and I am so thankful FTPC is providing a Godly venue for her to learn the value of service. I will tell you that I was particularly glad she was available to handle a toilet issue that... well, let's just say she earned her volunteer stripes that day ☺

Another major upgrade we were fortunate to acquire is a new sound board for the sound booth. The original unit had long outlived its life and was overdue for a replacement. Thank you to the expertise of our volunteer pool we were able to purchase a new unit at an exceptional price with an emphasis on durability and longevity (professionally described as a “tank”). The sound board is not overly burdened with features (more than our old, however) but fills our needs quite well. It was a major purchase but is expected to last another 20+ years without issue.

At the beginning of the summer we had our annual spring cleanup. Although the group was considerably smaller than usual many put in a long day and was able to accomplish a tremendous amount of work including weeding flower beds, pruning trees, spreading bark etc. Around that same time, we also pressure washed the sidewalks and porches.

Our current project is finding a new alarm system to replace the failed unit in the office. We do have a quote from our current service provider, but we are researching other possibilities, including self-install and monitoring options. If you have experience in this area, please contact me with any advice you might be able to offer.

Maintaining our God given facility takes a lot of time and effort which relies heavily on the willingness and expertise of volunteers. Here at FTFC we don't have the mega-church budget to make a phone call any time work needs to be done so God has equipped us with the spirit and ability to manage His house. If you are comfortable working with your hands or would like to learn, we have many opportunities and a need for volunteers who are available for an hour or two on occasion. I currently have more than 10 projects waiting for attention. Anything from changing a light bulb to installing an electrical outlet. Please contact me if you might be available.

In loving service to our Lord,

*Todd Hutchinson, Facilities Elder*

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IMPACT TEAM - 2017**

The main Christian Education ministries/activities in 2017 were “Generations” Sunday School ministry, Junior Church, Youth Groups, Vacation Bible School in Tukwila and Mattawa, and a Christmas program.

We continued with the intergenerational Sunday school format that we call “Generations”. Average attendance is about 35 people, including children, youth and adults. This year the Service Teams took over providing the mini-breakfast/snacks and beverages we put out during the social time before we begin the sessions, for which the CE Impact Team is very grateful. We continued to base the lessons on the Bible Studies for Life curriculum published by Lifeway. The attendees like the format, which starts out with a fun activity for the whole group, after which we break into small group discussions and activities for young kids, youth, and adults.

Junior Church continues to minister to kids from pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade during the second half of the Sunday morning service during the school year. We have used a variety of curricula and the children seem to enjoy the activities, crafts and Bible lessons while their parents/guardians are hearing God's message in the Sanctuary. Attendance is down as we have not had many new young families attending in the past couple of years. We sincerely ask the congregation to pray fervently for the Holy Spirit to guide new families to FTFC for the mutual blessings they and FTFC can share in Christ, so the Lord's name can be praised in the community for many years to come.

Our Youth Ministry continued to meet on Tuesday evenings in 2017 with some “hang out” time from about 6PM to 6:30PM at which time we share a meal together. After the meal we usually have a game or other

group activity followed by worship time and small group discussions. The High School group attendance is usually 5-10 kids, and the Junior High group attendance is 12-17 kids each week. We have been trying different activities and lessons as led by the Holy Spirit. We held a Winter Retreat during the MLK holiday weekend last January which was a fantastic opportunity for 19 youth and 4 leaders to go deeper than usual into God's word and his plans for their lives. Most of the youth attending the youth groups do not come from Christian backgrounds and many have not put their faith in Christ yet, so this extended time away from home and distractions is a huge opportunity to reach and teach them. We covet the congregation's prayers each time we have our winter retreat, and we want to thank the Thais Clark Memorial Fund and all who contribute to it for providing scholarships/subsidies for so many of the kids to attend, since the cost of the retreat is beyond the means of many of the kids' families.

We held successful Vacation Bible School events again this year in Tukwila (July 17-21) and Mattawa (August 7-11). The VBS team was a little smaller than the past few years but most of the youth and adult volunteers had a lot of previous experience, which the Lord used to prepare them to do his work. The CE Impact Team wishes to thank the congregation at FTPC for continuing to step up each year to support this important outreach with volunteers, funds, treats, supplies and prayer. Attendance varied between about 35-50 children in Tukwila. In Mattawa the attendance was down a little, but we had about 200 kids come for all or part of the VBS in Hund Park. The local churches in Mattawa still faithfully and enthusiastically support and encourage us while we are there, providing meals and treats and activities for our VBS team and the local kids who attend. Lord willing, we will continue to answer his call to hold VBS in Tukwila and Mattawa again in 2018.

The youth ministry at FTPC held a Christmas program again this year with kids from the Junior Church and youth group ministries putting on a small play, leading the congregation in Christmas carols, and doing a song and dance number to praise and glorify God for sending his Son into the world to save us from our sins.

The CE Impact Team would like to thank So Won Kim for her wonderful, tireless leadership as our FTPC Youth Director, as well as all the many volunteers who responded to the Holy Spirit's call to serve in one way or another during 2017. Praise the Lord for all he has done in our midst, amen?!!!

Respectfully submitted,

*Jon Fertakis*

*Elder for Christian Education*

## **WORSHIP - AV TECH - PRAYER IMPACT TEAM - 2017**

For the Worship Team, 2017 was a year for "freshening up." As we moved beyond the "same old same old" in various ways, our desire has been to share with the congregation a sense of newness in engaging with God through worship. Here are some of the things we did this last year:

### **Worship:**

- During our Worship Team Retreat last March we took some time to sort through our music box and retire some songs from our repertoire. We've also added several new songs this year, including Christ is Enough, Before the Throne of God Above, Spirit Break Out, and Only King Forever.
- In the Spring, our pianists (Kathy Hougardy and Micah Linscott) tried out some alternate songs to sing after the offering instead of the usual Doxology.
- Micah added ukulele to our mix of instruments this year.
- In October, when Malcolm preached on the Song of Moses, we rearranged the order of the worship service, with songs interspersed throughout the message.
- Azaria Heier organized "Special Music" several times this year: How Deep the Father's Love for Us on Easter, He is Yahweh in November, and Light of the Stable in December.

## **Prayer:**

- In 2017 we continued with our monthly **Lord's Watch** the first Tuesday of each month.
- **The River**, a healing prayer service was held two times on February 19 and April 23.
- During Lent we followed the **Seek God for the City** prayer guide and held a **Lenten Cleansing Prayer Service** on March 5, the first Sunday of Lent.
- We continued our prayer support for Burma through the **Global Day of Prayer for Burma** on Sunday, March 12.
- We joined with other believers in Tukwila to pray at City Hall on **National Day of Prayer**, Thursday, May 4.
- We participated in **30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim World**, from May 26-June 24.
- In September, we made some changes to **Prayer Tukwila** and our weekly **Morning Prayer**. PrayTukwila now meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at Friendz Café, and our weekly prayer has changed to Thursday mornings at 10:00 am.

We praise God for the joys of the past year and look forward to how we may grow in Him this year.

*Micah Linscott, Worship Coordinator*

## **CHRISTIAN EQUIPPING IMPACT TEAM - 2017**

On Impact Team nights, Aaron McGruder and Ed Hougardy met together to discuss men's fellowship, while other groups were able to continue thriving independently of the meeting.

**Young Adult** was able to meet consistently throughout the year and learn to grow in Christ together. The format has changed multiple times, but the core message has not; radical devotion to Jesus is something to be earnestly sought after. Throughout this year, they have studied the books of Ephesians and 1 John, and will be transitioning to reading Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *The Cost of Discipleship* in early January of 2018.

**Men's Fellowship** was also able to meet consistently during the year. In the summer of 2017, Ed Hougardy was invited to take a leadership role within the group. During this time, they have continued to develop friendships and explore what it means to be Christian Men. In the winter of 2017, they transitioned to reading works by A.W. Tozer. The Men's Fellowship team, especially Ed Hougardy and Jon Fertakis, were also able to begin work in building relationships with our sister churches, Mukilteo and Rose Hill. Both churches held a joint Men's retreat that our church was invited to in September. During that period, some relationships were allowed to begin, and we had the chance to see what God is doing in other churches in ECO.

In September the church was also able to revive a time that proved pivotal to the success of the church: **Congregational Morning Prayer**. In praying for the church, they are able to continuously ask the Lord for guidance both in the present and future of the church.

**Focus in Our Impact Team Meetings:** Our primary concern this year was really seeing how we can continue to support small groups that are meeting within the church, largely without any prompting. This is a church that is committed to deep friendship and it is gratifying to see the ways in which we can live life together despite myriad obstacles. Groups such as Young Adult, Men's Fellowship, Women's Bible Study, Retiree's Lunch and numerous other groups point to the church finding ways to live in community, with one another, as we continue becoming more Christ-like.

We continue to celebrate times that we can enjoy each other in community, such as the monthly potlucks, the Church Family Camping Trip, and the new addition of the Brewer's Birthday Open House. As a team, we anticipate looking for ways to ensure that all people can find ways to connect with others in the church. A primary concern for the team in 2018 is to find ways to ensure that those who visit or come to the church feel loved, valued, and connected with a minimum of difficulty.

If you have ideas on how we can be more inviting to people who don't feel connected in the church, if you have a small group that is open to having more members join, or if you are looking to find a point of contact within the church, please contact Aaron McGruder, or any of the other elders.

We pray that Christ continues to mold and shape us into an increasingly accurate reflection of Him, we pray that we continue to grow more in love with Jesus. We thank God that we can live in community, that we are not called to walk alone, but are invited to be sharpened, strengthened and held accountable by our fellow believers.

*Aaron McGruder*

## **MISSION/COMMUNITY OUTREACH IMPACT TEAM - 2017**

The Missions impact team seeks to make Christ known to the world, thus fulfilling the Great Commission.

Our small team became even smaller when some members moved away during the first half of 2017. The funds budgeted for missions have, in the past, been as high as 25% of the total F-TPC budget. In 2011 they were 23%. In 2016, only 18%. Although this does not include special offerings, and giving by individual members, missions impact team is concerned about this long-term overall decline.

This year, we have made extra efforts to communicate with and have face-to-face contact with some of the missionaries we support. Our world is changing rapidly, and many people groups are oppressed and in crises, which present opportunities for missions. Accordingly, our budget for next year reflects crisis priorities, specifically Muslim refugees from the Middle East being ministered to by Kathy Giske and Mid East Partners, and the over 600,000 Rohingya survivors of the Burma massacres who have fled to Bangladesh this Fall, and other displaced peoples being ministered to by the Free Burma Rangers.

Other missions we support include the Genesis Project, Child Evangelism Fellowship, Wycliffe, Young Life, PRMI, North American Indigenous Mission, OMF, Doug & Wendy Linscott (working with AIDS victims in South Africa), Divine Inheritance, Tukwila Food Pantry and New Hope Health Center.

FTPC's covenant partners and others in the congregation are encouraged to pray for our missionaries (see the prayer calendar) join the Missions impact team, and/or attend next year's Missions Fest-Seattle (which we also support.)

Serving Christ together,

*FTPC Missions IT*

## **MEN'S FELLOWSHIP – 2017**

In the first part of 2017, the men finished the final study from the book "A Man and His Fatherhood". As the title suggests, this study focuses on the importance of a man's role on being a father, to raise up healthy daughters and sons.

In February the fellowship continued the tradition of hosting the "Sweetheart Brunch," an after-service meal for the entire church. As usual, entertainment, music and games were provided along with the pancakes.

The end of September provided an opportunity to fellowship with Rose Hill and Mukilteo Presbyterian Church at their annual Men's Retreat. These two churches, along with FTPC, form our "ECO affinity



group.” in the ECO denomination. This retreat provided an excellent opportunity for participants to establish relationships with members of the other churches.

Closing out the year, the Men’s Fellowship decided to study “The Pursuit of God” by A. W. Tozer. This study will carry us through 2018.

On behalf of the Men’s Fellowship,

*Ed Hougardy*

## **KOBA CIRCLE - 2017**

KOBA CIRCLE (Keep Our Beliefs Alive) meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from September through June usually in the church fellowship hall. We meet at 11:00 a.m. and start with a Bible study. This year we are continuing our Bible study in the book of Acts using a Life Guide Bible Study book, titled “Acts, Seeing God’s Power in Action.” It is a good time of sharing what we are learning and how God is working in our lives.

After the Bible study we have lunch. There are 2 members who hostess each time. We bring our own sandwich or salad and enjoy a dessert brought by one of the hostesses. It is a warm atmosphere with the table decorations provided by a hostess also. We had a potluck in June and enjoyed lunch at the Puget Sound Skills Center in December prepared and served by high school students as part of the class they are taking at the Center.

After lunch, we have our business meeting and then share our praises and prayer requests. At each meeting, we take an offering to be used in December. This year we gave to several of our own members who were in need.

We provided flowers for the Sanctuary a Sunday in October in remembrance of all our friends who have passed on into the presence of the Lord. Some of us again took part in Samaritan’s Purse Operation Christmas Child by filling shoeboxes with gifts to be distributed to children in need worldwide.

All women of the church are welcome to join us and will find this group of ladies loving, warm, and supportive. We truly enjoy our time together each month fellowshiping and growing together in Christ.

On behalf of KOBA CIRCLE,

*Colleen Richards*

## **DEACONS - 2017**

The Deacon committees serving the Lord at FTPC are as follows: Comfort/Care Groups; Family Potlucks; Kitchen; Retirees; Visitation/Transportation; Weddings/Bereavements; & Worship Assistance.

The Deacons serving this year are Adriana Cribb, Colleen Richards, Gin Opel, Eric Elfstrom, Bob Ferguson, Elaine Higman, and Barb Ivanov, and Pat Heir.

### **Committee Leaders are as follows:**

1. Retirees Luncheon: Tammy O’Dyley\*
2. Potlucks: Colleen Richards
3. Weddings and Bereavement: Adrianna Cribb
4. Care Groups: On Hiatus
5. Kitchen and Pantry: Elaine Higman/Bob Ferguson\*\*
6. Visitation/Transportation:

\*\*Bob Ferguson filled in where needed and picked up the pantry/kitchen supply purchases. Service Groups took over responsibilities for the Social Hour and Worship Assistance that used to be Deacon Responsibility.

The annual picnic was held in July with the church providing the hamburgers and hotdogs again this year. Everyone had a great time. The monthly family potlucks (fall, winter and spring) seem to be well attended. The February potluck was replaced by a pancake feed with the men's group hosting it.

- Deacons hosted Pastor Nick's and Jeanette's retirement party.
- Deacons hosted a baby shower for Prisca and provided a gift card to help with the baby.
- Deacons hosted Marci Krantz's wedding shower.
- Deacons provided meals for Sallie's father's Jenny's mother's memorial service (both the private and the public memorials).
- Provided rides for some of the Red Cross Shelter people that were staying in the church basement.

The Deacons, with the congregation's support were able to provide Christmas help to five of our members who had a much happier Christmas because of the congregation's generosity and good will.

*Bob Ferguson, 2017 Deacon Moderator*