

## Five Oaks Church 2015 Congregational Meeting 12/06/15

1. **Worship**
2. **Opening Prayer**
3. **Call To Order and Meeting Protocol - Erik Fair**
  - Quorum reached: 127 in attendance out of 344 members listed (36.9% attendance, 25% needed).
  - Meeting called to order at 4:47 p.m.
4. **Introductions - Erik Fair**
  - **Elders:** Tom Berg, Bruce Gorter, Uchendu Jemie, Kevin Johnson, John Lowrey, Dan Parker, Gregg Peacock\*, Henry Williams
  - **Governing Board:** Erik Fair (presiding), Rebecca Blakey, Hector Dalton, Amy Evans, Steve Hawn\*, Joe Lehn, Steve Messick, John Servatius\*, Henry Williams

\*Terms are ending
5. **Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings - Erik Fair**
  - Motion made by Steve Hawn to approve the Fall 2014 Congregational Meeting Minutes. Seconded. Vote taken by voice. All in favor.
6. **Treasurer's Report -Brian Burquest**

For [ ] update

Year	Commitments	Giving	Applied
2013	\$ 239,000	\$ 243,700	\$ 145,800
2014	\$ 504,000	\$ 475,100	\$ 412,300
2015	\$ 510,000	\$ 259,100	\$ 267,800
2016	\$ 547,000		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,800,000</b>	<b>\$ 977,900</b>	<b>\$825,900</b>

### General Fund Update

<u>General Fund (as of 10/31/15)</u>	
2014 Budget	\$1,740,000
Income YTD	\$ 1,282,762
Expenses YTD	-\$ 1,438,028
YTD Surplus	\$ (155,266)

<u>Balance Sheet: Assets</u>	
Current Assets	\$ 214,677
Fixed Assets	\$ 7,049,410
Other Assets	\$ 17,874
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 7,281,961</b>

<u>Balance Sheet: Liabilities &amp; Equity</u>	
Liability Accounts	\$ 70,736
Mortgage Balance	\$ 4,359,327
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 4,430,063</b>
Equity	\$ 2,851,898
<b>Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	<b>\$ 7,281,961</b>

## 7. Elections- Erik Fair

- The following individuals were elected by written ballot:
  - Elder Candidate: Jeff Jorgensen
  - Governing Board: Erik Fair\*, Amy Evans\*, Meleah Miller, Bruce Paulson
  - Nominating Committee: Karen DuVal, Debbie Robbins

*\*elected to second term*

## 8. Bylaw Proposal -Erik Fair

- Governing Board brought for approval by ballot one By-law change.

#	Title	Description
1	Audit committee	The Governing Board shall constitute the Audit Committee. The Governing Board shall examine the financial records, policies, and procedures of the Church and prepare an annual audit report. In its discretion, the Governing Board may employ the services of an external auditor to assist it in carrying out its responsibilities. A copy of the annual report shall be made available to any member upon request.

## Rationale:

In 2013, Article IV, Section 2 of the Bylaws was amended to provide that the at-large members of the Audit Committee would be selected by the Governing Board rather than voted upon by the congregation. The bylaw was also amended to clarify that the Audit Committee has authority, with approval of the Governing Board, to employ the services of an external auditor to assist it in carrying out its responsibilities to conduct an annual audit. The current recommended bylaw changes carry this one step further. The proposed amendment recognizes that the Governing Board constitutes the Audit Committee. Given that the Governing Board has fiduciary responsibility for the financial affairs of the church, and given the size of our organization, the Governing Board agrees that there is seemingly no need for a separate Audit Committee which reports, and is accountable, to the Governing Board. Practically speaking, there is very little for non-Governing Board members of an Audit Committee to do, particularly when the services of an external auditor are utilized to conduct the annual audit. Thus, the proposed amendment to Article IV, Section 2 establishes that the Governing Board constitutes the Audit Committee of the church. The Governing Board is directly accountable to the congregation.

Changes were available for review the last 60 days. Opened floor for discussion; no discussion. Bylaw passed (119 yes, 2 no, 1 abstention).

- **Senior Pastor Update**—Henry Williams

We bring God's story to life every week through each of you and your commitment to our ministry.

- The heart of our story starts with our weekend services and our “all killer, no filler” approach. We want every element of our worship gathered to count and have a purpose. In 2015, we focused on changes to the look and feel of our services. First, the move to a retiring offering has allowed us to be sent out with a greater connection to the heart of the service - the sermon and response time, bringing the story of God to life in our daily lives—while still allowing people time to connect with us. Second, we have introduced a way to pray about current events in our services by bringing back the old practice of pastoral prayer, but in a fresh way. We've also added a new look to each of the weekend benedictions. These are hand-made pieces of art produced by our own Stephanie Kiel. They're going to be turned into a book, where the proceeds will benefit one of our Impact ministries. We've also given each of you a little piece of our service to take home with the release of our Five Oaks original music titled Songs and Prayers. The new Christmas album is available online. More original music is a big part of our plans for the future.
- The way we tell our story has improved in 2015 with the launch of our new fiveoaks.church web site. It organizes content in such a way that tells our great story to those exploring Five Oaks. But it's also a landing spot for those already a part of our church. Our social media presence has increased with the launch of an Instagram account and a Facebook engagement increase of 86% since October of 2014.
- The next chapter of our story is the way we share God's Word with all of the children of Five Oaks. Just like we updated our weekend services, so also the format has changed for our Children's Ministry. In 2015, Cindy Yarrington and Rhiannon Rutledge introduced the “Jesus Storybook Bible” curriculum to our Pre-K/K students and the “How to Study Your Bible for Kids” for 1st-4th graders. And we have big plans forming for next fall. To help equip our Five Oaks parents on the home front, we have offered our Kids and Technology workshop, the Shine event and the meaning of Easter Experience events throughout the year. The grand finale for Children's Ministry year is our Vacation Bible School in June 2015. We hosted 203 kids, along with 125 volunteers for Everest VBS to learn how to conquer challenges with God's mighty power.
- Our kids are a little older in the next chapter of the story called Student Ministries. We welcomed Tyler Sotebeer as our new Student Ministries Pastor and Justin Talk as our Associate Director of Student Ministries. Tyler and Justin started out the year sharing their “7 Hacks for Parents,” and Tyler launched his POB (Parents Only Blog) by talking about social media guidelines for parents. This last year Student Ministries had 45 students attend District Blitz in

Rochester, two teams of students to Jersey City and New Orleans on a mission trips, and 83 students attended Camp Getaway this Fall. The focus right now for Student Ministries is to gauge the spiritual fitness of our students and to get a baseline of their relationship with Christ. We will then fine-tune our focus for student small groups.

- The next chapter of our story is the adults of Five Oaks. Small Groups and adult ministries have been a focus of our church since I started here as senior pastor 18 years ago. It's the way we build real connections and walk through life supporting each other. Additionally, we have revamped the way we do DailyLife as an online personal study pushed to you daily. More than 200 people have signed up for this electronically. We also have our first small group with a primary purpose of serving others that launched this fall - it's the Friedman's small group and they will be our first Impact small group. We also have many flourishing adult ministries like our Men's Ministry that had 55 men committed to the Authentic Manhood series and dozens of women who join us every Wednesday morning to worship and study together. This is also our second year to host women's BSF who has maxed out our building and parking lot with their attendance. Five Oaks hosted the Global Leadership Summit for the second year to help build better leaders in our church. We had more than 250 attendees for the two days leadership training and inspiration with top speakers including Bill Hybels.
- We leave our church home, and reach out across the globe and to our surrounding communities for this next chapter called Impact. In 2015, we supported 15 missionary families. Our goal is to pair missionary families with our small groups for greater missionary care. The Igl small group prepared a care package for the DeBruyn family serving in Berlin. This chapter is overflowing with outreach too numerous to go into detail. We had Five Oakers who served at Camp des Cimes in France, delivered food to the All God's Children Orphanage in Haiti, and ran the Twin Cities Marathon to raise money for water projects in Africa. In fact, our own Jerry Meras ran the 54 mile Comrades Ultra-Marathon and raised over \$10,000 for World Vision in Kenya.
- Turn the page, and we had just as much impact right here in our own neighborhoods. Five Oakers prepared meals for over 700 people at the Dorothy Day Center in St. Paul. We collected 703 pounds of food for Christian Cupboard in Woodbury and over 3,800 diapers for New Life Family Services in St. Paul. The Bryant small group hosted VBS for the Karen children at the Brittany apartments in St. Paul where 127 children attended and 23 made first time decisions. We collected over 600 Thanksgiving bags for families in the metro for Union Gospel Mission, and our own Kevin Johnson was named volunteer of the year for UGM. The Impact chapter closes with the amazing Woodbury-wide Mega MobilePack event for Feed My Starving Children last month. Five Oaks pledged \$50,000 toward the cost of the food and helped pack meals for the highest producing shift of the entire event.
- The last chapter of this story focuses on how our church is opening its doors to welcome all the new neighbors moving in around us. In early 2015, we launched an outreach campaign called Invite that consisted of seven distinct efforts to help us The Adopt-A-Neighborhood initiative funded a series of mailers that are going to all new residents in Woodbury and Cottage Grove. Each resident will receive one new mailer each week for a series of four weeks. This process will begin again with a new set of The Friday Fun Night team pulled off three amazing outreach events in 2015. Game Café in March, Fireworks at Five Oaks in July, and the Fall Fun Fest just last month. We averaged more than 450 people at each of these events with many new faces at each. We are taking this Fun Night idea, and as Jim Collins would say, "moving from shooting bullets to firing a cannonball" As part of Invite, we also gave away scholarships for Financial Peace University, held three prayer walks in Woodbury and Cottage Grove, wrote thank you letters to all new attendees, held a Study Night Coffee House for high school students and pledged to invite 25 new people to Five Oaks in 2015.
- This closes the book on a year of transitions and fresh approaches for our church. Just take a moment and consider everything that God made possible this year. It's humbling and exciting at the same time.

**9. Budget Proposal -Brian Burquest**

Motion made by Governing Board to approve a 2016 Priority 1 Budget of \$1,840,000 and an additional \$100,000 to be spent at the Board's discretion if the funds are available. Vote taken by ballot and approved (119 yes, 4 no).

**Historical Giving vs. Expenses**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Budget (Initial)</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Giving</b>	<b>Change in giving from prior year</b>
2011	\$1,615,000	\$1,567,000	\$1,653,000	
2012	\$1,552,000	\$1,567,000	\$1,677,000	1.5%
2013	\$1,600,000	\$1,578,000	\$1,611,000	(3.9%)
2014	\$1,665,000	\$1,658,000	\$1,661,000	3.1%
2015	\$1,740,000	\$1,705,00088	\$1,670,000**	0.5%

\*\* Indicates estimate only

<b>Category</b>	<b>2015 Budget</b>	<b>2016 Proposed Budget</b>	<b>Change</b>
Missions	\$208,800	\$220,800	5.7%
Facilities	\$396,200	\$402,000	1.5%
Personnel	\$904,300	\$982,900	8.7%

**Major Budget Expense Items**

**10. Introduction of New Members -Bruce Gorter**

- Elizabeth Andretta
- Patrick and Katie Bennett
- Matthew and Tianna Brocker
- Jason and Amy Felix
- Keith Graham
- Peter Kim
- Lance Messer
- Cheryl Reed
- Lisa Vollmuth

**11. Adjournment—Erik Fair**

- Approved by unanimous consent. Meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

**12. Closing Prayer**

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Evans  
Five Oaks Church Governing Board Secretary