

**Elders Meeting**  
**September 23, 2024**  
**6pm – 8pm**

Attendees: Steve Walker, Don Fitzgerald, Brad Stevens (chair), Bret Blackford, ~~Dave Weiler~~, Steve Awtry, Jeff McGlawn (visit), Ross Brown (visit)

Next mtg.: Monday October 7 – Brad Stevens chair

**1. People**

{{ various }}

**2. Preacher Search:** Still working warm leads. After this we should consider other avenues of finding candidates, such as church publications, university websites, or with Siburt. More details here – [Sr Minister Job Search](#).

a. Jason Mundie (<https://www.jasonmundie.com/>):

The first interview went well, and second interview is scheduled for Thursday, September 26.

**3. Laptop:** Computers are property of the church, but it was decided to allow Jeff Kryder to keep his laptop.

**4. Mauritius Merger:** A couple of churches in Mauritius are considering a merger. One of the ministers has asked for guidance from the McKnight elders.

**5. Administrative Minister:**

Administration has been noted as a concern with many of the ministerial candidates. It is also an area that continues to need attention in the absence of Jeff Kryder. To fill this gap, the elders approached Steve Walker about taking on the role of a part-time Administrative Minister.

- Possible organizational diagram – [link](#)
- Possible job description – [link](#)
- Jeff Kryder's listing of administrative tasks – [link](#)
- Other thoughts and considerations – [link](#)

Need to prepare job description, determine hourly rate, and finalize offer with Steve Walker.

Note: The discussion of Steve remaining as a voting elder was discussed. The potential conflict was recognized and discussed but a majority of those in attendance felt it was not only appropriate but preferable for Steve to remain an elder even while working as a paid minister.

Communicate Steve Walker's new position ...

- to staff week of September 30
- to congregation following Sunday

**6. Hospitality:** Steve Awtry mentioned the importance of the elders modeling hospitality. Trying to find ways to get smaller groups of the congregation in our homes or provide other opportunities for fellowship.

Below is an open item from prior meetings. Keeping on radar as a future topic.

**LGBTQ+ Conversation** (key item from prior mtgs)

Steve Walker shared the [Rooftop Community Church \*Statement on Gender and Sexuality\*](#).

Although “marriage” is mentioned in the McKnight Crossings Church of Christ Core Beliefs ([Facility Rental Agreement \(mxcoc.xyz\)](#)). However, this is not on our website but has in the past been distributed to ministry leaders to affirm during budget submission.

It was discussed if Dave Weiler could present his thoughts on the Church and LGBTQ+, based on his recent study in this area. The Elders can then decide what, if anything, might be needed as far as a formal position on the matter. This should be done prior to a new minister as to avoid any suspicion that it was done on his request or prompting.

Other earlier discussions on the topic:

**July 10, 2023 notes:**

LGBTQ+ discussion – Dave Weiler mentioned study with Brian Hill and Bret Blackford on Sundays after worship. Brian Hill has a homosexual uncle and uncle asked McKnight’s position on the matter. Dave Weiler explained that McKnight’s position is that a marriage recognized by God is one man and one woman for life, but that homosexuals and those on the LGBTQ+ spectrum should be welcome to worship with the McKnight body. Books we are reading as part of this study:

1. [For the Bible Tells Me So \(the biblical-theological necessity of LGBTQ+ inclusion in the church\)](#) by Katie Hays (Dave, Bret, Brian Hill reading jointly)
2. [Messy Grace : How a Pastor with Gay Parents Learned to Love Others Without Sacrificing Conviction](#) by Caleb Kaltenbach
3. [Messy Truth: How to Foster Community Without Sacrificing Conviction](#) by Caleb Kaltenbach

Other documents:

- Video from Craig Young regarding the Betheline Monastery in France – [video link](#)
- Sept 25 Email Bulletin - [link](#)
- August 23, 2024 MXYG Newsletter - [link](#)
- August 23 Kidmin Newsletter – [link](#)
- Sr Minister Search Summary Document – [link](#)
- 2024 Q4 Preaching Schedule – [link](#)
- [Rooftop Community Church Statement on Gender and Sexuality.](#) - [link](#)
- What Do Elders Do? – [link](#)
- McKnight Crossings Shepherding Model – [link](#)
- McKnight Crossings Shepherd’s Covenant – [link](#)
- McKnight Crossings Core Beliefs – [link](#)
  - Note: includes the following statement:  
*We affirm that **marriage is ordained by God as a covenant made between a man and a woman, which is the foundation of the family and representative of Christ and His church.** Eph. 5:22-33; Gen. 1:26-27; Gen. 2:23-24*
- McKnight Crossings – Gender Summary (Fall 2014) - [link](#)
  - Note: includes the following statements:  
*We, the leadership, have asked ourselves whether we want to be among those contributing to the benefit of the next generation? If so, how? Our answer is that **we would like to do our part to strengthen the body of Christ and the mission of God, by allowing women every role our current understanding of the Scripture will enable***  
*Therefore, as a leadership, at this time, **we do not believe that a woman should be the primary teaching minister (which necessarily requires leadership) for the church or serve in the role of an elder.***  
*If our principles **allow women to use their gifts more fully ... We will encourage and build upon an inclusive use of gifts ... including leading worship and preaching a sermon.***

---

***“Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on; you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. What on earth is He up to? The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of - throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage: but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself.”***

— C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

**Attachment A**

Below notes from Jeff McGlawn, noting scheduled classes for remainder of 2024.

Notes  
CFT Meeting  
July 8, 2024

- NT Wright series seems to be going well.
  - People are in different places in their faith journey; some still are questioning.
- There is no plan for collecting Back to School Supplies
  - Betty will check with Barb Eickele about the possibility of providing supplies for Food Pantry patrons.
- **The schedule for “But What Does It Mean – Part 2” class is set.**

Date	Name	Topic
29-Sep	Steve Awtrey	Repentance
6-Oct	Travis Myers	Faith
13-Oct	Kaylynn Myers	Kingdom
20-Oct	Todd Mayberry	Justification
27-Oct	Betty Vaughn	Grace & Mercy

- **The next class after the Part 2 class will be “[Living God’s Love](#)”.**
  - Start date: 11/3
  - Teachers: Jeff Fogarty, Jeff McGlawn (if able), Tim Nicholson
  - Class Meeting Dates: 11/3, 11/10, 11/17, 11/24, 12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22, 12/29
- Discussion on getting people to be more involved in Bible Study.
  - Jeff Fogarty will start a list of members not currently involved.
  - We will work on building relationships through lunch dates.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 9, 2024**