

Elders Meeting

October 20, 2024

6pm – 7pm

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

Next mtg.: Monday November 4 – Bret Blackford chair

1. People

{{ various }}

2. New Members: It was decided that those wishing to place membership will be allowed to do so. However, they will need to go through the *Next Steps* class to be recognized as a baptized believer and full member.

Recent inquiries into membership – Sandra Lumpkin, Dina Hill, and David Morris.

3. 2025 Budget: The Administrative Elders are working on the 2025 budget. We remain \$90k under budget for 2024 but hope for some additional giving in December.

4. Q1 2025 Preaching Schedule: Steve Awtry discussing possibilities with the elders. Jerry Jones did a great job and we are considering bringing Jerry back in 2025. Several others are getting lined-up to preach as well with topics under development.

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 have hired Steve Walker to take on the role of a part-time Administrative Minister.

- Organizational diagram – [link](#)
- Job description – [link](#)
- Jeff Kryder's listing of administrative tasks – [link](#)

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.

6. Bible Classes: Although a committee has been working on Bible classes (is this the Christian Formation group?), all schedules and curriculum needs to be presented to the elders for review prior to implementation. The Q1 2025 plan is now under development (possibly 3 classes) and Jeff McGlawn should have a recommendation to bring to the elders soon.

7. 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.

Hospitality is considered a topic for preaching in January & February 2025.

7:00-8:00 pm Interview with John Gunter.

- It was decided to invite John Gunter to visit McKnight.
- Jason Mundie will also be offered to visit McKnight.

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](#)
- Oct 23 Email Bulletin - [link](#)
- Oct 21, 2024 MXYG Newsletter - [link](#)
- Oct 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.***

“He died not for men, but for each man. If each man had been the only man made, He would have done no less.”

— C.S. Lewis

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



2024 Advent Schedule

This flyer will be given to our Trunk-or-Treat visitors.

Note: the topics listed next to the dates are not the sermon topics but the Advent theme.

