

REGULAR BUSINESS SESSION

FEBRUARY 15, 2026

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Evan Pitts, a quorum declared and meeting was opened with song and prayer by Worship Leader, Jon Rappa. Moderator reviewed the meeting agenda and called for approval of the minutes from the last regular business session in November. Motion made and seconded to approve, seconded and passed. Mike Metzler gave the attached Treasurer's Report. For the month of January, collections were \$44,811 against expenses of \$41,657. Year-to-date, collections total \$291,648 while expenses are \$191,872. We are currently \$84,000 ahead of budget, and a surplus of nearly \$100,000. Several line item notes include: Benevolent/Helps appears at (-75%) but collections from Dollar Sunday have exceeded spending, resulting in a current available fund of \$1,750. Video & Sound is high (84%) due to upfront equipment purchases. Maintenance and Repair is at 73% of budget due to significant air conditioning repairs. Other budget line items on track at approximately (40%). Motion made and seconded to accept as presented and passed.

Motion made to accept into membership: Becky Thompson, Larry Middleton, and Matthew and Sarah Smith. Seconded and passed.

STAFF REPORTS: Jon Rappa reporting for Worship, detailed recent operational successes and updates. Included were reports on the Christmas Eve services, the transition to the two services schedule, new communication stabilization to be more consistent across all media platforms. Plans are being made for upcoming events including Youth Weekend, Easter weekend, VBS. Jon made a call for volunteers to join the Tech Team rotation and an orientation is planned for new and existing members. This report is attached in the official record book.

Lisa Erickson provided an update on the nursery and preschool ministries, including needs and policies. She reported on ministry growth with two babies being born since January and two more expected by the end of May. She addressed the Child Pick Up Policy, the sickness policy, and the need for volunteers for both services. That report is attached in the official record book..

Pastor Jesse reported on the status of the security grant, on Wednesday evening Team Kid, Student Ministry and Adult Bible Study. He talked about church growth and attendance since implementing two services. He reported on plans for the educational wing renovation project that is planned in two phases. Pastor Jesse also provided updates on security policy, bylaw review and church communications. Reporting on upcoming spring family prayer workshop, Easter weekend, Jon's pastoral process and the blood drive on campus in June. His report is attached in the official record book.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominating – Glenn Bryan reported that the church is actively recruiting for open committee positions, with a specific need for a new Church Clerk. An updated roster of all committees has been created, identifying members who will be rotating off their terms and will be contacting members encouraging them to volunteer for the open positions.

Stewardship -Ron Hewlett reported that all projects funded by the budget surplus are proceeding smoothly and under budget. Although not all invoices have been received to date, projections are that none will exceed their allocated budget. The committee invites members to submit any new requests for projects for consideration.

Personnel – Elio Chiarelli reported that the committee met with Nursery Coordinator Lisa Erickson recently and the meeting went very well. The primary goal for the upcoming year is to provide Lisa with more opportunities to connect with the church families by being relieved of her duties at least one Sunday a month so she can attend one of the two services. Coverage for her will be provided by an individual who is CPR trained and meet all other requirements. Annual reviews of the staff are to begin in March. Elio welcomed Mike Sullivan as a new team member.

Building and Grounds – Robert Erickson gave an update on several completed maintenance projects and a future mulching project. Completed projects include ceilings in the breezeway of the educational wing have been repaired covered and painted. Sanctuary and educational wing have been completely repainted. Trim around the gym was treated. A noisy and non-functional AC unit in the lobby of the FMC has been replaced. Gutters around the sanctuary were repaired. Decorative (non-structural) columns on the educational wing have been securely fastened. A day to replace mulch around the property will be set for March. Question raised about a possible cleaning day for the entire facility before Easter and that may be considered. Concern raised about the exterior doors on the educational wing. Robert stated that those will be addressed by a future grant project. Comments were made about the excellent appearance of the church's new paint job as seen from the parking lot and thanks expressed for this work.

Deacons -no report

Church Council – no report

Constitution and Bylaws- Ruthie Erickson reporting for this committee, summarized the process since the recent town hall meeting. She expressed thanks for the member participation and feedback received and minor revisions were made to the Bylaws. Many questions and much discussion followed. Questions were raised about the scope of the Church Council's responsibilities, about church members transferring to a non-Baptist church, concerns about a single elder led church and the desire to propose a new governance structure. Those notes are

made available in the attached report. The final proposed revisions have been distributed to the members for a vote later in the meeting.

Question raised about a leadership vacancy for the Community Outreach and Mission Team. Preston Howell has stepped down from his leadership on this team and a new leader needs to be found. Question raised about the Youth Team status as a report was not seen on the agenda. Pastor Jesse clarified the team has not been dissolved but has not met recently. Several previous members have stepped away, and new members have volunteered, A meeting needs to be held.

Unfinished Business: Moderator called for vote on the Constitution and Bylaws as proposed and presented. Constitution approval required a two-thirds vote. The Constitution changes are minor and were summarized again. Motion made to approve. Coming from committee, no second is required. Vote was unanimous. The process for voting on the Bylaws was established, with the initial plan to vote on the entire document as a whole. Motion made to approve the entire set of revised bylaws. No second needed. A contingency plan was proposed: If the motion to approve the entire document failed, we would then proceed to vote on the bylaws article by article to provide specific feedback to the committee. For clarification, it was stated that the first vote would be on the entire package, and only if that failed, would a vote be taken, section by section. It was re-confirmed that a simple majority vote was required to pass the bylaws. Vote taken to approve the bylaws as a single package. A hand-count was conducted. In favor 42, opposed 22. Bylaws approved as presented. A copy of the Constitution and Bylaws as approved are available in the official record of business meeting.

New Business- A request was made for the church to approve representatives for the upcoming Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting. This meeting is to be held in Orlando in June. Pastor Jesse asked that he and Kathleen and Jon and Emma be approved to attend. Motion made and seconded to approve these representatives. Motion passes.

The Treasurer brought for approval Pastor Jesse's Housing Allowance for the year. He explained that the IRS requires ordained pastors to submit a breakdown of their housing costs for a tax deduction. Motion made to approve the housing allowance as presented and attached to these minutes. Seconded and passed.

Other New Business: A motion to form a committee to research amending the bylaws to a "plurality of elders model" was introduced and much discussion and debate followed. The motion was clarified, rephrasing it as a proposal to form a committee to research the topic, rather than an immediate vote to amend the bylaws. This clarification was made to avoid unintended consequences and to ensure proper procedure as amending bylaws requires specific wording. The revised motion should be specifically be to create a committee for

researching the plurality of elders governance model for the church. Several spoke for and against this revised motion. Notes detailing these comments are attached. The moderator called for order and a refocus on the pending motion to form a research committee. The motion was restated for clarity ... to form a committee to research the feasibility of the plurality of elders. The group discussed the procedural details for forming the proposed research committee, including a conflict of interest as the committee appointing members to this committee is the pastor's brother. It was agreed that if the motion passes, Glenn will recuse himself from the selection process. The pastor noted that the topic of an elder led model was an extensive part of his interview process and was discussed with the personnel committee before he was hired. Moderator Pitts clarified the revised motion again and the motion to form a committee to research the feasibility of the plurality of elders was put to a vote. A vote was conducted by a show of hands. In favor 15. Opposed greater than 15. Motion to form committee fails. Following statements asking for unity within the church body, the meeting was adjourned with prayer.

As stated earlier, all notes and reporting from this meeting have been made a part of the official record of church business meetings.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Evan Pitts, Moderator

Alice Bryan, Clerk

Members are reminded that copies of the Team Reports have been made available and become a part of this official business meeting reporting. The Team Reports are attached.

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