

# First Southern Baptist Church/Cornerstone Church

Church Business Meeting Sunday July 30, 2023.

Pastor James Gomez opened the meeting with I Corinthians 14:26, 33 and prayer.

Minutes: The April 23, 2023, Business Meeting minutes were approved as printed.

Financial Report: Will Sutton

--**Financial Report** April 2023 – June 2023:

--- **MISSION MINISTRIES**

---- is 23.41% of expenditures and includes:

----- \$1,781.87 Local Missions, mostly facilitating the Cowboy's Rest Mission Service Trip.

----- \$2,250 Mission Pass-Through. UISBC to Pastor Naeem Emmanuel, Divine Grace Urdu Church

--- **FACILITIES**

----- New Equipment expenditure of \$7,780.72 includes new computers for the Pastor and Administrative Assistant, and a new riding lawn mower with a protection plan.

--- **Summary – right side of page**

---- Over this quarter, total funds are down \$2,234.21, finishing at \$242,648.74.

---- The Special Project Fund was \$124,426.19 at the end of June.

--**Financial Summary** period October 2022 – June 2023:

--- **MISSION MINISTRIES** expenditures represent 32.14% of all expenditures October – June.

--- **Bottom right corner**: The total with % Missions, but without Special Projects is 76.48% of the annual budget at exactly 75% of the church financial year.

Will moved to accept the report, Robin Almond seconded, and the motion carried.

Children's Ministry: Susan Gomez

--Vacation Bible School/ Kids Week was July 10-14

Total enrollment: 50 children                      Average daily attendance: 39 children

                    Total Volunteer Staff: 27

Seven members of the staff came from a local collegiate church from the University of Utah. They were a Godsend. They made it possible to have a 4-year-old/ Kindergarten class and ran the registration table.

Susan: "I am so thankful and feel blessed by all the volunteers for their hard work and dedication to make VBS happen. It is my hope you are all blessed by participating in this yearly outreach event."

The Penny Offering:              Girls: \$204.18 (47.8#)                      Boys: \$230.17 (66.2#)

                    \$434.35 was the total sent to the Concern Center.

--Next Summer: Next year's VBS will help kids discover that God's Word is not like the shifting sands of popular belief that can change as quickly as a wave washing away a sandcastle. They will discover that God's truth is immovable, unchanging and worth building one's life upon.

Motto: God's Truth Never Changes

Scripture: Romans 12:2 "Do not be conformed to this age but be transformed by the renewing of your mind so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing and perfect will of God." (CSB) (This is from an attached document.)

--Susan said the enemy is always working.

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## Youth Ministry: Manny Gomez

-- There were no youth in Sunday School for a month but there were five kids today. He is hoping to plug into a Risen Church youth event at the end of September. Gospel Grace church also joins this event.

## Social and Recreation: Robin Almond

--There was a churchwide barbeque June 10<sup>th</sup> with the Youth of our church helping, with games and prizes. It was a great turnout.

--The Ladies' Tea Party June 17<sup>th</sup> was well-attended. Pastor James said we could bring in a speaker for this. Robin was wondering about doing it more than once a year.

--A steak fry is being scheduled on a Friday in early September. Olga and Udo Rilk want us to come to their home.

## Deacons: Manny Gomez

--The deacons went over the proposal from Gospel Grace with Pastor James, Pastor Luke Bylsma and Pastor Will Galkin.

--The past months our church has not helped with rent, following our By-Laws, so we sent people to the Concern Center. Rent requests have been coming from non-members. They have been sent to other organizations where they can get help for rent. Smaller needs have been met with deacon's personal finances.

--Robin Almond asked for a list of places to give to the homeless who are on the streets asking for help. Pastor James said the papers would be available next Sunday.

## Technology: Pastor James Gomez for Terry Almond.

--Pastor James and our secretary Theresa Gomez say the new computers are super-fast! Ardis Sutton said this is because the former computers were so slow—fifteen years old or more.

--There was another discussion about in-ear monitors for the Praise Team. There are problems with them—Fabian Aguilar from Roca Church said their church had too many problems with them to continue to use them. Corey Gomez said there are issues getting them set up and people not hearing all they need. When new monitors for the stage were suggested, they said they can cause feedback. Landen Starr said Mary Castillo needs higher volume to be able to hear herself on the dais. Rehearsing enough ahead of time can solve some of the problems.

--Landen Starr said he would like training to learn how to use more of the functions of the soundboard. Pastor James said he would ask Mike Hansen to help with that.

## Building and Grounds: Jim Kearns

-- Grab bars are all installed in the restrooms downstairs.

--They are still working on putting in taller toilets.

--Tony Horstmanshoff has been helping replace windows. They have called and scheduled appointments but the businesses don't turn up. One window has been fixed. It could cost \$2000 to replace four windows in six to eight weeks.

--Miguel Robles has closed holes around the church to keep rodents out.

--The broken window blinds will be replaced with commercial blinds so they can stand up to the use in our church.

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--Roca Church is having a yard sale. It was postponed to Saturday, August 13 or 20. There is room in the container where donated items can be stored. Jim Kearns said to bring only items that are clean and usable for the yard sale.

--Roca church has a family that has volunteered to clean out weeds from the new parking area.

--Robin Almond said there is a safety hazard with plugins in the kitchen, especially above the microwave. She would also like a white board put up in the kitchen.

--Pastor James is working with Jim Kearns to have the fire extinguishers more user-friendly. They are checked yearly.

--Update on parking lot: Pastor James said our permit is not approved yet. A woman named Aiden from Gospel Grace church works for the city. She is helping us figure out what we need to do. They are hoping to have a property committee soon to get more work done on the parking lot.

## Food Service: Robin Almond

--On June 30 her team did a deep cleaning of the kitchen with the help of Olga Rilk, Avelina and Rudy Gomez, Gale and Jim Truesdell, Deb Quinley, Melissa Painter and Joe Salazar. Robin found a cabinet to use in the fellowship area that is perfect. She wants a white board put up where used towels can be hung to dry and then picked up for washing.

--The fridge, freezer and cabinets are cleaned every week. She requested people take any of their items home. If it is marked with a name, it will be left for a while.

--Robin expressed gratitude for William Crenshaw, Debbie Quinley and Laura McGregor who were a great help at VBS.

--Jim Truesdell and Robin found lots of supplies for the kitchen.

--Perishable food needs to be taken care of quickly.

--Robin has collected three terry cloth robes for those getting baptized. She has found many towels for the kitchen. She asked for donations of flip flops that would be a welcome help for those who are baptized. She asked that people would hang up used towels so they can be collected and washed.

## Brotherhood: Landen Starr

-- June 28 Manny Gomez led the devotion and Josh Almond cooked.

--Landen wondered about taking men out for coffee next month.

## Decorations: Theresa Gomez

--Theresa said the fern by the front door was donated by Udo and Olga. She asked that we would water it if we see it is dry.

## Outreach: Pastor James Gomez

-- VBS was good. Seeds were planted. The best gift is to give out the Word. One young man professed faith and wants to be baptized. Pastor James talked with the mom and young man but they are in the process of moving. Pastor James is praying for protection of the seed.

--Alia Webster and Keysha Gasu stepped up to do the craft rotation, doing an excellent job.

--Dianne Kearns reporting on the jail ministry: They have issued tablets to all the inmates. Sometimes the inmates take the tablets and go off themselves but several really want the LORD. Each tablet has a Bible app. Pastor James said if anyone was interested, they would help fill out forms and more.

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--Roger Sims is wanting to help Henry's Place, a camp and retreat center in central Utah. Pastor James is trying to figure out how to work that with Cowboy's Rest. Roger used the church van to minister in Cedar City.

## Sunday School: Pastor James Gomez

--Attendance was around 36. A few guests plugged into Sunday School.

--They have done nothing about background checks since the last meeting but are planning to do that soon. Laura McGregor volunteered to set that up and we are all grateful.

## Pastor's Report: James Gomez

-- See above information.

## Old Business:

-- Our church family donated a \$250 gift for Pastor Fields to celebrate 25 years of him and wife serving at Unity Baptist Church.

## New Business:

--Eight people have presented themselves for membership in our church: Manny Gomez, Bethany Gomez, Daniel Calderon, Gaylene Dawes, Lilian Gomez, Kylee Almond, Bea Cragun and Paula Gomez. Pending the fulfillment of all the requirements, those present accepted all of them unanimously.

--Pastor James said Mary Lou Gomez has been a huge help with the history of membership. She has some very old files.

--We need a clerk to keep track of the membership.

--We, as a church family, have been reading the proposal from Luke Bylsma and Gospel Grace church, documents from our church and Gospel Grace church.

--Pastor Luke Bylsma will preach August 13 and 20<sup>th</sup> when Pastor James is on vacation.

--Pastor Luke would like to teach different Sunday School classes in September: the adult classes, youth and 4-6<sup>th</sup> grades.

--October 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Pastor Luke will lead a separate Sunday School class for questions on any topic. Terry Almond suggested sending our questions to Luke ahead of time so he can prepare.

--October 15<sup>th</sup> we will vote about going forward with this proposal in our business meeting.

--David Gomez has been praying about all the changes, asking God to be the Leader. It sounds good to him. Pastor Luke seems like a nice person to him and he wants to go forward. David also trusts Pastor James' judgment.

--Pastor Luke wants to spend time with us individually and with families, getting to know us and understand our questions. Pastor Luke and Gospel Grace will not let any of the possible people coming from their church become members yet. Pastor Luke and the Gospel Grace people will lean on our leadership in the transition as they learn about our church.

--Dianne said that Luke said that many from Gospel Grace are praying for our church. She thinks that this may mean all the seats in our sanctuary will be filled when they come. She encouraged us all to pray for those that God wants here. Gospel Grace recently had 100 volunteers to serve in our area for a short time.

--Pastor James said he wants our church to grow and connect with others so his grandchildren can go to camp and enjoy children's ministries. He wants God's LIGHT to shine even brighter on this corner of Salt Lake City. We are all on Team Jesus and should continue to do our homework.

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--Will Sutton said we have one more quarter in our fiscal year, so we need to convene the yearly budget committee for the next year September 2023- August, 2024. Will asked for all people who oversee budgets to prepare for a meeting within a month.

--A prayer meeting is being scheduled so our church can pray together about this proposal.

--Will signed up with the county to get tax notices online. We only have one notice this year because the properties have been merged. The net worth of the church went up.

--Theresa and James Gomez will be gone for two weeks and appreciate all who are serving so they can travel.

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Ardis Sutton moved we adjourn, and David Gomez seconded the motion. All stood in agreement as Pastor James led in prayer.

Notes were taken by Ardis Sutton