

First Southern Baptist Church/Cornerstone Church

Special Called Business Meeting

Pastor James Gomez called the meeting to order to vote on The Proposal, which is attached as a separate document.

The Proposal was born from prayer with Pastor James Gomez, Pastor Luke Bylsma and Pastor Will Galkin in early 2023. Gospel Grace Church of Salt Lake City, UT had the desire to plant and or help revitalize a church in the Rose Park area, and Pastor Luke Bylsma had the desire to pastor that church, with the possibility of ministering to multiple ethnic groups. Pastor James Gomez had informed Cornerstone Church in June 2022 of his intent to retire as Pastor.

Pastor James Gomez will continue as a Pastor of Cornerstone church through December, 2024, when he will retire as Pastor. Pastor Gomez will take a 90-day sabbatical during calendar year 2024.

A summary of The Proposal:

- Affirm Luke Bylsma as Lead Pastor of Cornerstone Church, who will initially serve with full funding from sources outside Cornerstone Church.
- Adopt a new church document replacing the existing Constitution, By-Laws, Faith Statement, and Church Covenant. The new church document is an adaptation and refinement of Cornerstone Church documents and Gospel Grace Church documents.
- Pastor James Gomez will continue as a Pastor of Cornerstone church through December 2024, when he will retire as Pastor. Pastor Gomez will take a 90-day sabbatical during calendar year 2024.
- The intent of Pastor Luke Bylsma and The Proposal is to honor and extend the history and legacy of First Southern Baptist Church / Cornerstone Church of planting churches and ethnic ministry.

There was no discussion of The Proposal since we had been discussing it for weeks.

A secret ballot was taken in accordance with First Southern Baptist Church / Cornerstone Church By-Laws. Thirty ballots were cast and The Proposal was accepted with thirty “yes” votes. The affirmation of The Proposal and Luke Bylsma as Lead Pastor was unanimous!

Pastor James thanked the LORD for His mercy to our church. Pastor James said the first time he shook hands with Luke Bylsma, God told him this was the man who would be our next pastor. The deacons confirmed this. This morning he asked God again if it was God’s will—and saw a shooting star that seemed to come to our church, confirming this is His will.

Will Sutton moved to adjourn the meeting, Mary Lou Gomez seconded, and the meeting closed with united prayer for our church and Pastor Luke and Karin Bylsma and their family.

Notes were taken by Ardis Sutton