

West Highland Baptist Church  
Quarterly Business Meeting  
September 24, 2023

Attendance: 94

Kevin Miller opened the meeting with prayer.

1. Kurt Davis, the moderator, called the meeting to order.
2. Approval of agenda - Kurt Davis

**MOTION** to approve the agenda as presented was made by Sue McClurg and seconded by Brian Cochrane. Carried.

3. Approval of minutes - Kurt Davis

**MOTION** to approve the minutes from June 23, 2023 AGM as published was made by Patti Benallick and second by Graham Lowe. Carried.

4. 2023 Financial Update (for the first seven months of the year) - Ed Brink

Please see the attached report.

**MOTION** to approve the 2023 Financial Update was made by Ed Brink and seconded by Corrina Rush. Carried.

5. Ministry Team Report - Video from Pastor Jaime Strickland

Highlights:

**Services:** July and August averaged 100 more people every Sunday from last summer.

**Fall:** Lay worship leaders are doing a great job. Pastor Dwayne Cline as interim until December. His sermons will be titled "Encountering Jesus".

**Staff:** Adam Haida is the young adult leader. There will be Friday night live, every other Friday night with bible study and praise. There are 2 new young adult community groups. Pastor Kevin is working on a vision statement for youth. The theme for this year is rooted in relationships and growing in Christ. Kim and Katie - Children's Ministry. Katie Wouters has joined the staff. Summer camp had 44 campers and LIT saved. So many new families are attending. 30 kids from camp now at Kids Club. Interns were great. 8 college interns lead the team. 78 youths were involved. Kids Club has 125 registered.

Community Groups: Pastor David on staff.

Pray for us as a ministry team. They will be together on October 2&3 to plan out the Christmas season and the first half of 2024. It is a privilege to serve. We sense that God is on the move. It is exciting. Thank you for prayers, and continue to pray for the staff.

6. Pastoral Search Committee - Phil Seagrove

The PSC meets weekly, they have discussions regarding the names for consideration. We continue to receive applications from the FEB Central posting, which was recently opened. This will continue for the immediate future and eventually this posting will be closed. You can submit names through the PSC email. There is lots of work to be done and much homework to do but we are grateful for the opportunity and take this responsibility that the congregation has entrusted us to, very seriously.

Please continue to pray for the PSC.

October 21 - prayer and fast session. Join with us in fasting and praying at home. Pray for special direction from the Holy Spirit.

Question: D. Cline is here until Christmas. What are the plans after that? However the Holy Spirit leads us. We are doing great here at WH. But maybe the Lord leads us to have a time between lead pastors. Maybe we need to learn something. The Lord has His own timing and we will be sensitive to that. If we don't have a candidate by then, that is not a PSC issue, that is an Elder issue.

7. Elders Team Report - Rob Kapteyn, Elder Chair

Refugee Update - Dorett James

She is working with an agency that works with the government that works with the applicant. The applicant (Yasar) is from Iran - he has been in Turkey since June 2021. The 1st man of his family to become a Christian and he has led all his family and he is being persecuted, so he fled Iran. His son (Daniel) is with him. He has a daughter as well. She is being held in Iran by her mother at this time. We need to pray that she will release her daughter to Yasar.

Applications usually take 12 months. The application was filed in May and he has an interview in September. Praise God. He has been accepted into Canada. He and his son could arrive by the end of the year. We will need to get him settled. He will need a 2 bedroom apartment. We will need WH to help find a place.

Natural Church Development Survey Results:

A survey was given to a cross section of 30 people at West Highland ON Feb.4/2018 and again on April 2/2023 to determine changes and/or progress. The survey evaluates church health based on 8 characteristics. A healthy church is a church that will grow. From the survey it was determined that the three lowest scoring categories were loving relationships, effective structures, and empowering leadership. This is a tool and we are relying on God to lead us in a path to improve on the areas of concern to improve the health of the church. The elders are working on this.

Prayer Requests: PSC, ministries starting up, christian grandparenting, community groups, alpha, elder team, potential elders, and ministry team.

Praise Items - Rob reported it has been 2 months since his heart surgery and he is doing good. He and his family have been blessed by their church family.

The elder team is looking into some capital projects. 1. Replacement of the portable - how to replace it is yet to be determined. 2. Computer equipment, firewall, wifi, soundboard, and old phone system.

Elder candidates - stay tuned. We have approached different men and more in the coming days.

Policies and Procedures - Maintenance of policies and procedures to protect WH and our people in this day and age.

**MOTION** to approve the Elder's Team Report was made by Rob Kapteyn and seconded by Sharon Weir. Carried.

Questions for Rob:

Q:What are the plans for Sue's position? A: We are focusing on the lead pastor at this time. The lead pastor will drive the search for new positions.

Q: Why are people leaving the church? A: The membership list is being reviewed.

8. Adjournment - Kurt Davis

**MOTION** to adjourn the QBM was made by Rich Wouters and seconded by Ken Robinson. Carried.