

Elder Board Report
2021 September Annual Business Meeting
Joel Jundt, Vice Chairman

This has been another busy year for the Elder Board as we continued to seek God's will in our church body. Similar to last year, we experienced joys and pains as we strived to encourage and unify the body. As can be imagined, these efforts were hindered somewhat again by the COVID pandemic.

Strategic Goals

Although we were not able to accomplish all our strategic goals over the past year, we were able to make great strides with several of them. Some of these successes included holding a successful mission conference, performing various community outreach projects and positive movement towards retiring the loan debt. All of these efforts were only achievable by the congregation's participation and support. We pray that the pandemic will continue to diminish as we look forward to achieving more success on all our goals in the coming year. Our strategic plan is attached to the back of this report and we encourage our members to look for ways that we can actively put these goals into action.

As a reminder, the purpose of the strategic plan is to align our programs such that we are all heading in the same direction as God moves our church forward – with the ultimate mission: **To know Christ and make Him known.**

Leadership

Numerous changes occurred over the past year that created challenges for the Elder Board and our church programs. In April, Elder Derrick Haskins resigned to follow God's call as an intern in Madison, SD. This was a great loss as Derrick has been a dedicated servant not only to the Board but also to our congregation. In August, Pastor Jesse accepted a Senior Pastor position in George Iowa with First Baptist Church. Pastor Jesse will also be greatly missed, and we are grateful for his leadership and servant heart. Much was accomplished through his ministry and we pray that God will richly bless his new calling. With the vacancy of Pastor Jesse as our Associate pastor, the Board will be requesting formal input from the congregation in the next couple of months to get your thoughts on how best to fill the position regarding job responsibilities. Numerous ideas have been provided already and if you have thoughts, please visit with an elder.

The year also brought changes between the Elder Board and Deacon Board on how they work together. There was mutual agreement that the Boards need more interaction, so we began holding joint meetings every two weeks instead of meeting separately with limited communication. This has enabled us to better collaborate on church activities, opened up lines of communication, enabled us to unify our efforts and better aligned ourselves with our church goals, and foster more meaningful relationships.

Unifying the Body

During this past year, it became very apparent that conflict within CBC has escalated to a point that it was having negative effects on our body. This conflict has not only developed over the past couple of years but also includes long term conflict from years past. The Board believed that the conflict was serious enough that we should seek professional help from a Godly organization. In the latter part of August, we contracted with Crossroads Resolution Group to perform an assessment. The overall assessment will include a final report providing recommendations on how best to reconcile the issues, both individually and corporately. Crossroad's recommendation is to be received sometime during the third week in October. The Board will then use these

recommendations in determining on how best to move forward. Our goal through all of this is to unify our body. For true reconciliation to take place, meaningful forgiveness needs to occur that can only be led by the Holy Spirit. We ask for your continued prayer in this area.

Staff and Volunteers

We continued to be blessed with dedicated staff who serves our church body on a daily basis. Under the responsibility of the elders is Virginia Brown, Jenn Oedenkoven and Roxanne Rice who work diligently to serve our church family. We are grateful for their service and ask that you thank all of our staff at CBC for their diligent work in glorify God.

Pastor Chance continues to serve as our as Senior pastor as he strives to provide meaningful sermons that equips us to grow deeper in our relationship with Christ and with each other. Through his preaching and teaching he challenges us each week to make our election complete and helps us focus on Christ through biblical preaching - while the world around us tries to do just the opposite. As Pastor Chance continues to mature in his role as CBC Senior Pastor, he experiences similar human short comings that we all experience sometime in our lives. Through these, he continues to learn from these short comings and we would ask for your grace as God continues to mold him as our Senior Pastor. As a congregation, we all have different needs, expectations, and life experiences. These create challenges for a pastor as he attempts to navigate these many facets for a large congregation as large as ours. We would ask you to continue to pray and provide encouragement to Pastor Chance and his family as he ministers and serves our church body.

Finally, we would be remiss if we didn't thank all of you for your dedication and service to CBC family. Thank you for the countless hours that you serve as volunteers in: Sunday School, AWANA, youth group, worship team, ushers, deacons, numerous committees, Bible studies and other small groups, VBS, Women's ministry, mission trips, supporting missions, as well as providing financial support throughout the year. Thank you for using your time, talents, and finances to further His kingdom.

Closing

The Lord has blessed CBC and will continue to bless us in many ways - as He is faithful. As Christ's ambassadors, we are called to be the church. The true meaning of a church is to be Christ's body - to reflect Him in everything we do. Anything else would be a human substitute. As Christ's church we are to remain faithful to His Word, trusting completely in His sovereignty, and always abiding in Him through all of life's difficult challenges as we strive to bear fruit in our service. I think these passages reflect these truths:

Deuteronomy 7:9

Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations

John 15:4

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

To God be the glory for ever and ever,

Joel Jundt