

January 30, 2025

## **Elder Update**

Hello BF Family!

God is on the move among us. The new support staff (facilities, residents, office coordinator/AV support) as well as the reimagined roles of current staff (communications coordinator) have made such an impact for our team. The new staff are fitting in and they already strive to live out our staff values of Humility, Personal Growth, Servanthood, and Communication. They have picked up our culture and are running with our vision of "discipling the people in front of them." God is good and faithful.

We wanted to update the church on our 2025 approved budget, our Lead Pastor search committee process, and give you a preview of this Sunday!

## **Approved Budget**

## 2025 Believers Fellowship Budget

The BF Budget Committee has been diligently working to finalize our budget for this year. FYI - the committee is made up of the elders, a few deacons, and led by our Finance Administrator – Beth Moss. It is always our objective to be wise stewards of the financial resources God has entrusted to the ministry of BF.

Our total projected budget for 2025 is \$1,167,589. (As a point of reference this budget closely matches the annual donations received from each of you in 2024)

This can be broken down as follows:

Facility Expenses: \$107,247

Business Operations: \$ 46,883

Internal Ministries: \$192,366

Staff Expenses: \$761,093

External Ministries: \$ 60,000

As you might imagine, this year there are a number of financial "unknowns" in terms of additional staffing needs. The above numbers include what we have projected the future staff expenses to be - and we look forward to those God will have serve at BF.

In addition to these budget categories, we also anticipate spending up to \$188,000 in necessary capital improvements this year. This includes creating office space for future staff, making our Children's Ministry areas even safer and more functional, and improving the lighting in various areas. The funds for these improvements exist in our current cash on hand.

We are incredibly grateful for your faithful stewardship of the resources God has entrusted to each of you. Your contributions to Believers Fellowship make a lasting impact in our community, and beyond the boundaries of Gig Harbor. How wonderful to join together to participate in God's kingdom work! We are so appreciative of the consistent generosity of each of you; and for your trust in the committee and the staff to steward these funds wisely!

## Pastor Search Committee Update, Jan 2025

Last week was a roller-coaster week for your Lead Pastor Search Committee. We voted unanimously for our finalist, but, in God's providence, our finalist decided to pursue a calling elsewhere. So our search continues! We have had 71 applicants. Our vetting process for those deemed to be strong applicants includes phone calls, zoom interviews, multiple reference interviews, and in-person visits. We collectively listen to lots of sermons and endeavor to pray without ceasing throughout. Our process will culminate in elder approval, introduction and preaching to our church, and official calling to ministry at Believers Fellowship.

We love our church--and know that God loves his church exceedingly more than we do! We prayerfully look to Him to provide in his perfect timing. Please join us in prayer! Through His Spirit at work within us, He is able to do far more abundantly than we can even imagine--and we desire Him to be glorified in our process (Eph 3:20-21).

Your search committee includes Brandon Adams, Gary Albert, Ashley Dennis, David McColgan, Chelsea Metsker, Matt Metsker, Beth Moss, Mikal Nelson, Emily Roy, and Chad Van Someren. Although we keep names confidential during the vetting, you are welcome to ask any of us for updates on our process at any time.

In God's Grace,

The Elders of Believers Fellowship