

Elders Meeting Agenda & Notes

Nov. 3, 2025

6pm – 8pm

Attendees: ~~Steve Walker~~, Don Fitzgerald, Brad Stevens, Bret Blackford (chair), Dave Weiler, Steve Awtry, Jeff McGlawn (visit), Andrew Owens

Next meeting: November 17, 2025

1. Devotional

- [Bret reminded the group](#) how blessed we are ([link](#)):
- **Theme:** Gratitude for God’s blessings and ministry transitions.
 - Andrew Owens serving as Lead Minister.
 - Devin Daniel joining as Family & Children’s Minister.
 - Jeff McGlawn’s faithful interim service.
 - Steve Walker’s continued leadership as Admin Minister.
 - Many new visitors and families joining MX.
 - Strong Elder team; younger ministry staff demographic aligning with outreach goals.

2. People

{{ various }}

- Reminder: Information not provided directly by a family should be treated as **confidential** and **not shared** in the midweek bulletin or Sunday announcements.
 - See email reminder ([here](#)) for reference.
- [Bret reminded the group](#) to be intentional keeping people in our thoughts and prayers ([link](#))

3. Budget

- **Dave Weiler** presented the 2025 budget appeal.
- Discussion around the **best timing and method of congregational communication**.

4. MX Class on Elders and Leadership ([outline](#))

- Week 1 (Nov. 9) – Steve Awtry & Andrew Owens
- Week2 (Nov. 16) – Steve Awtry & Don Fitzgerald
- Week 3 (Nov. 23) – Steve Awtry & Don Fitzgerald

5. Rolling-Quarter Planning (Preaching & Classes)

- Andrew Owens provided a recent 2025Q4 calendar for Preaching & Teaching ([link](#))

6. Back-Pocket Readiness:

- Sunday Sermon – Steve Awtry has prepared a worship service based on the Sermon on the Mount ([link](#))
- Communion – Andrew Owens will handle this if needed

7. Pepperdine “Compelling Preacher Initiative” Update

Andrew Owens has been accepted into the 2026 CPI program ([link](#))

8. Old Business

Missions:

- **North City Church:** Dave Weiler, primary contact, recommended discontinuing financial support in 2026. McKnight has historically contributed \$5,000 per year. *Details forthcoming.*
- **Mauritius:** Our contributions have shifted from ministry support to benevolence. The original recipient, Cemden Subarayadu, has merged with another congregation and no longer leads preaching or pastoral work. Funds now primarily support Cemden’s family rather than the

church. The MX Missions Team will review and clarify the situation to determine how best to allocate mission resources going forward. *Details forthcoming.*

9. Food Pantry Update

- **Government shutdown** led to loss of [SNAP](#) funding; increased local need.
- MX “[Christians Who Care](#)” pantry has seen **surge in clients**.
- Congregation to be encouraged to help restock.

10. Small Groups – Next Steps

- Bret Blackford discussed with **Devin Daniel** and **Andrew Owens**.
- Shared conviction that **Small Groups are essential** for church health and shepherding.
- **Plan:**
 - Wait until **Spring 2026** for full relaunch.
 - In the meantime, **encourage and reconnect with leaders**.
 - Instead of inviting them to an Elder meeting, plan a **Sunday meeting** (better attendance).

Links noted for related emails and leader lists.

- Email summarizing Small Group conversations – [link](#).
- Earlier email encouraging Small Group Leaders – [link](#).

11. Evaluation of Recent Events (summarized [here](#)):

- **Fall Festival** (Trunk-or-Treat and Chili Cookoff)
- **Faith in Action**

12. Bret Blackford and Jeff McGlawn tagged to take on the “Pastoral” function

Misc. Documents:

1. 2024 Member Info: Births, Baptisms, etc. – [link](#)
 2. **Sr. Minister Search Summary document** – [here](#)
 3. 2014 MX Gender Study: Women’s Role – [here](#)
 4. **2025 MX Gender Study: Women’s Role** – [here](#)
 5. Communion Guidelines – [here](#)
 6. **What Do We Believe?** – [here](#)
 7. Betheline Outreach Center ([Chapelle de Fuveau](#)) – [link](#)
 8. **Qualification of an Elder:** Study Documents – [here](#)
 9. What Are Elders supposed to Do? - [link](#)
 10. MX Shepherding Covenant – [link](#)
 11. **MX Shepherding Model** – [link](#)
 12. MX Core Beliefs – [link](#)
 13. MX Core Values – [link](#)
 14. Instrumental Music in Worship – [link](#)
 15. MX Welcome Packet (for new members) – [link](#)
 16. Elder Hospitality: draft document – [link](#)
 17. Mauritius – Camden Subarayadu March 2025 newsletter - [link](#)
 18. **2025 Church Calendar** - [link](#)
 19. **For The Bible Tells Me So**, by Dr. Katie Hays – [link](#)
 20. 11.03.2025 MXYG Newsletter – [link](#)
 21. 11.05.2025 MX Bulletin - [link](#)
 22. Steve Walker’s draft MX Organization Chart – [link](#)
 23. MX Leadership Development Model (draft) - [link](#)
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24. Elder Growth and Training:

- a. **Often Overlooked Values of High-Functioning Elder Teams** – [link](#)
- b. **Creating a Mentorship Program for Emerging Elders** – [link](#)
- c. **6 Best Practices for Shepherding People in the Congregation** – [link](#)

Mio satt tyst en stund och såg ut över månljusbron.

"Tror du att min fader kungen vet vad jag måste göra?" frågade han lågt.

Jum-Jum nickade. "Ja, han vet det."

"Vet han också att jag kanske måste dö?" viskade Mio.

"Ja," sade Jum-Jum stilla. "Han vet det också."

Mio såg på sin vän. "Och ändå låter han mig gå?"

"Han vet att du måste," svarade Jum-Jum. "Men han kommer att vaka över dig."

När Mio hörde det blev han alldeles stilla.

En kall rädsla kröp genom honom.

Han såg på månljusbron som låg där, vit och tyst, och tänkte:

"Hur ska jag våga gå över den? Hur ska jag kunna möta Kato?"

Det kändes som om hjärtat stannade en stund.

Men då mindes han sin fader kungen, och att Jum-Jum skulle följa honom, och mitt i rädslan tändes en liten strimma av mod.