

Town Hall Meeting Questions
September 7, 2011

1. Are you leading the membership at SAPC to become a mega church mentality? What is your opinion of Christianity as practiced in a mega church? *Not really sure what 'mega church' means. I want St. Andrew's to do more of what we do best. If you were going to build a mega church, you wouldn't put one right here, in between a high school and a junior high in a residential community. I think people come here because they desire the relational in nature. I came here because I wanted to be your pastor, not to create a mega church. However I discern in you and I think you discern in me a desire for evangelism. So do I want more people to come here, uh-huh. Do I want more people to know Jesus Christ, to live and grow in their faith and become disciples, darn right. I think it is in the church's nature to grow. Does that mean that I want to be a mega church, no, I don't embrace that label.*
2. With our budget so tight, how can we afford additional administrative staff and a new half-time pastor? *Shawn Reilly – everything we have done this year is within our budget. The Horizon Foundation pays for Bruce's salary. The new position – Associate Pastor – will be in next year's budget. Session will approve that with you, the congregation.*
3. What happened to the people who got the \$100? *You can see many of the stories of what people did on our church blog. Go to Highlightslive.com and search on Kingdom Assignment.*
4. Can we be assured that there will be no food in the chapel? *That is the church policy. The chapel is a sacred space, as is the sanctuary. Food and drink will not be allowed.*
5. What was the cost of the chapel remodel? *\$83,000. \$10,000 of this was covered by one of our mission partners, North East of the Well. The remodel was paid out of the operating budget and no Building for the Future funds were used.*
6. What would happen to the retirement fund for clergy? *My understanding is that anything paid into for a pastor after vested (six years) can not be lost. You can't lose anything you put into it. The difficulty is that you could not continue to participate in it.*
7. What is our relationship with the Synod? *I have not real idea what the Synod is for to be brutally honest with you. It is my hope that the middle body governing board breaks up the synod or that we move to something like 6 super*

- Synods. The power resides not with the Synod's but with the local presbyteries. The presbytery is what we really have to be concerned with. While that is somewhat of a generalization, it is also accurate.*
8. If other churches "have to" leave the PC(USA) now and we recognize the PC(USA) won't change, then why not plan to leave and go with the New Reformed Body? What is the benefit to wait? *When you drive the car at night, you can only see so far. To speak for myself, I can only see so far right now and I don't want to overreach and get ahead of what God is doing. I think we are on the right pathway. I do not want to run away from something, I want to run to something. I think that there more people of our "ilk" here in our denomination than out of it. We don't want to walk away from that. I can think of lots of reasons to stay right now but do not pretend to know what the future will hold, speaking only for myself right now.*
 9.
 - a. What is included in "Tutions"? *Tutions includes the preschool, the after school program W.A.T.C.H. and our parent/child program.*
 - b. How many, who? *Over 400 children are involved in our tuition ministries. Staff includes 70 part-time and full-time staff.*
 - c. What are "dedicated accounts"? *Dedicated Accounts represent funds contributed by members of the congregation for specific purpose, such as "music ministry" or set aside by Session for a specific purpose. Receipt of funds into these accounts and expenditures from these accounts do not appear on the operating statements.*
 - d. How is "operating equity" calculated? *Operating Equity represents current year receipts less expenditures, other than receipts and expenditures from Dedicated Accounts, added to the carry-forward surplus or deficit Operating Equity balance from the prior year.*
 10. Are we going to go back to our traditional communion at the 8:00 am and 9:30 am Sunday services? *Yes. We will practice traditional communion October to June, then in July, August and September we will practice communion by intinction.*
 11. Why didn't the Haven Street sale amount go to reducing the building fund deficit? *The full disposition of funds from the Haven Street sale has not yet been determined pending completion and approval of a capital reserve study. The capital reserve study examines all our plant and equipment and determines how much funds should be set aside to repair and/or replace our assets as they age. In addition to being available for our capital reserve, part of the Haven Street sale funds has gone to replenish balances in our dedicated accounts and various other reserves that were borrowed in years past to fund out operating deficits. Finally, part of the Haven Street funds has been used to re-establish our housing fund that was depleted to enable both Pastors Kannwischer and Eckelmann to purchase homes close to the church. The housing fund needed to be replenished as we consider adding an ordained staff member in the next year or so. We will recommend that any funds left over after addressing the issues above be applied against the Building the Future loan.*

12. Is preparation being done to place before the Presbytery a resolution to allow each church to leave with their property or stay with their property as they may choose? It seems inappropriate for a "spiritual organization" to be held together by secular concerns rather than by spiritual and theological unity. *Not anything specific right now. The first item to be voted upon at the September meeting very specific that the fidelity and chastity requirement continue to be practiced in our local presbytery. There is at the national level a conversation as regards to property as well on both the national as well as local levels conversations regarding 'gracious dismissal.'* I do believe that this will continue to be a conversation and I am in favor of it. I would prefer to see that churches stay because they choose too, not because they are forced to due to some property clauses.
13. What exactly will Bruce Nelson be doing? What are his responsibilities? *He is half time, new position. Executive Director of our Horizon Foundation. This foundation has lacked intentionality in thinking about the future so Bruce is here to provide that. He was at Mariner's Church for 15 years, over Men's Minister and Stewardship. So he is going to help us with our workplace ministries and our stewardship. He will help us with a capital campaign when we get to it, maybe next year. He will help us think about our income side of the balance sheet in our ministries. He will help us to learn to think more missionally. How do we resource and equip people where they are, not just attraction ministry but incarnational.*
14. Is Bruce Nelson an ordained Presbyterian Minister? *He is not ordained in the PC(USA). He does have seminary education and was ordained in a non-denominational capacity.*
15. Dr. Kannwischer, how involved will you be in this New Reformed Body? *I am not going to have anything to do directly with the New Reformed Body – other than being a part of the Fellowship. We have the ability to help guide whatever that body is going to be. The only involvement that I have at this time is to share my ideas. Paperwork is filed for the New Reformed Body. My love and my passion is here – I don't even want to talk about this tonight, I would rather focus on what is going on here at SAPC. My only caveat is that I believe there is a narrow window of opportunity – we have hit a crisis point in the church. We may be able to do something internally (to the PC(USA)) to benefit the larger church.*