

GOALS

- 1.** MOU (document) approved by First Presbyterian Church (FPC)/Summerlin Presbyterian Church (SPC) Sessions.
 - a) Document is deliberated, amended as necessary and approved by each Session.
 - b) No timelines are set until the document is approved by both Sessions, both congregations, the Nevada Presbytery and a Joint Session is formed.
- 2.** Document approved by both congregations.
 - a) Document is presented to each congregation for input and revision, if necessary.
 - b) "Town Hall" meetings are held at each church to allow for discussion.
 - c) Congregation votes on document.
- 3.** Joint venture approved by Nevada Presbytery.
 - a) SPC's interim pastoral relationship with the Rev. R. Michael McDowell is dissolved.
 - b) A pastoral relationship between SPC and the pastors of FPC is initiated and approved by the Nevada Presbytery and the SPC and FPC Sessions prior to formation of the Joint Session.
 - c) Changes in pastoral Terms of Call are modified and then approved according to the *Book of Order*.
- 4.** Combined Session of the FPC and SPC sessions is formed.
 - a) FPC/SPC to be governed by a combined Session to consist initially of the ruling elders of both churches who choose to continue to serve in that capacity.
 1. The combined Session is moderated by the pastor, Head of Staff, of FPC.
 2. The combined Session is established immediately following the approval of the document by both congregations and the Nevada Presbytery.
 - b) The combined Session will review the commissions of FPC and SPC and make consolidations that result in meeting all of the objectives of each church.

- c) The combined Session will organize its commission structure to address the current and additional responsibilities.
 - 1. The combined Sessions will endeavor to include elders from each church on the newly established commissions.
 - 2. The commissions of each church will continue as is until the new commissions are established.
- d) A Clerk of Session will be elected by the Joint Session.
- e) The combined Session will meet at least monthly, summer months at FPC, winter months at SPC.

The two Sessions, working together as the combined Session over a period of a year or even longer, may conclude to merge FPC and SPC, thus establishing a new church. However, over this period of time, either FPC and/or SPC Sessions, may deem that the merger is not feasible or desirable and/or could even then propose a new concept.

If it is the will of the combined Sessions to actually merge FPC and SPC and the two congregations agree (by a vote), then the following would take place:

- 5.** New church charter granted by Nevada Presbytery.
 - a) Combined Session becomes the first Session of combined churches.
 - b) The first Church Officer Nominating Committee will consist of representatives from FPC and SPC elected by their respective congregations, who will join to form a combined Nominating Committee.
 - c) The name of the newly chartered church will be selected in a manner to be determined by the Joint Session.
 - d) The current elected Treasurer of each church shall become Co-Treasurers of the combined church.
 - 1. The Co-Treasurers will prepare a combined budget to present to the Joint Session within 60 days following both Sessions' votes to complete the merger.

2. A report will also be prepared to detail the balance transfers from accounts held by each church and the new combined balances at the time of transfer.
- 6.** Combined church receives new members by transfer from SPC and FPC.

The activities described in Items 5 and 6 above will require a significant amount of time and may follow item 4 by a year or more.