

Annual Church Council Training + Certification

CASE STUDY

The Way Foursquare Church is a 30-year-old church with a fruitful history, marked by community impact.

STANDARDS TO CONSIDER

HANDBOOK OF OPERATIONS

- Records and Reports
- Church Budget and Bookkeeping

FOURSQUARE BYLAWS

- 3.10 Church Council
- 16.1.A
- 13.5.C

BACKGROUND

The founding Senior Pastor has been retired for 2 years. The current Senior Pastor has been in his role for almost 18 months. Recently, the new SP announced to the Church Council they would begin having budget meetings.

THE NARRATIVE

A small group conflict has emerged, stemming from teachings by the small group leader that appear misaligned to the doctrinal beliefs of the local church.

AREAS OF CONCERN:

- 1 The Council has fifteen members at varying years of service.
- 2 The Senior Pastor will begin implementing meetings to address budgeting for the first time in almost 30 years in church history.
- 3 A small group leader is teaching false doctrine during gatherings.
- 4 Though the small group leader has been asked to discontinue, he is still sowing discord among members.

If the new pastor will just tell us what he wants, we'll make it happen!

- Joe (12-year council member)

I'd love to help our pastor by putting together the budget for him so he can just approve it. I have the experience to help with this.

- Suzy (2-year council member)

I'm concerned for those new to the faith to hear teachings that echo universalist beliefs.

- Janine (small group attendee)

ACTION PLAN WORKSHEET

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

What role does the Church Council have in assisting the pastor with church conflict?

What opportunities does this church have to steward their fiscal integrity well?

What is the role of the Church Council in the development and management of a church budget?

What are some things to consider when developing a budget?
