

As many of you know or have heard, the leadership of Capo Beach Church is moving toward an Elder-Led model of leadership within our church. The goal is to better engage and utilize leadership, staff, volunteers, and Capo attenders to reach more people for Jesus.

An especially important point to understand is that an Elder-Led model is not our destination. Our destination is the vision of Capo Beach Church. For Capo, implementing an Elder-Led model is a more effective way to move forward in achieving and expanding our vision.

So far, we have put the following changes into place:

In our Elder-Led model, our new board is called the Board of Elders. It includes the people who were previously Board members: Hal Baerg, Bruce Jordan, John Moody, Larry Leisenring, Larry Nielsen, and Matt Whitlock. The following people have been added to the Board of Elders: Theresa Clark, Chris Dyer, Randy Noe, and Stuart Spencer.

There are nine non-pastoral (lay) members of the Board of Elders. Matt Whitlock, our Lead Pastor, also serves on the Board of Elders, making the total number 10 people. Matt is a non-voting member, does not hold an officer role, and does not rotate off the Board of Elders as long as he is Lead Pastor. Matt is the primary vision-caster for the church, leads the church staff and operations, and is the primary public speaker for Capo. In this model, Matt works with, works for, and is accountable to the full Board of Elders. The Board of Elders respects Matt as the primary spiritual leader of Capo while recognizing their responsibilities to ensure the scriptural and financial integrity of our church. This is a team effort.

Members of the Board of Elders serve for three-year terms beginning in January, take at least one year off the Board of Elders, and may or may not be asked to serve another term in the following years. Prior to the beginning of each year, new Board of Elders candidates will be selected by the current Board of Elders and presented to the church for any input confirming or challenging their becoming part of the Board of Elders. Any and all challenges will be evaluated by the current Board of Elders. Three current Board of Elders members will rotate off at the end of 2025, and three new members will be added in 2026.

The 2025 officers for the Board of Elders are: Bruce Jordan, Chairperson; Chris Dyer, Vice Chairperson; Larry Nielsen, Treasurer; and Theresa Clark, Secretary. Officers serve one-year terms and are elected or re-elected by the Board of Elders annually.

The prior terms of "Spiritual Leaders" or "Leaders" will become part of the new "Prayer Council." These people will continue their current ministry to the members and guests at Capo. In addition, the Prayer Council will meet quarterly with the Board of Elders to pray for Capo Beach Church and answer any questions. The Prayer Council will be open to additional people as well. This is less of an 'exclusive leadership group' and more of an 'exclusive prayer gathering' of individuals committed to ministering to the people of Capo Beach Church. This allows for current people, new people, returning people, and our staff to be invited to interact with our church leadership as it relates to praying and ministering to our church.

We will continue to implement this model as we apply it to our ministries and decisions to achieve our vision. We are excited about expanding the engagement of people and their spiritual and ministry giftings at Capo Beach Church, and the acceleration of continually moving toward our goals as a church. If you have any questions, please contact any of our Board of Elders members.