



# Belvedere Family Church Council Newsletter

July 2016

Council Vision Statement (2015-2017) ~ *Our vision is for the Belvedere Family Church Council to be an effective and authentic team that represents the Belvedere community, and for the Council members to feel energized, joyful, and honored to be on the Council.*

## Welcome New Council Members!

As has been announced the new council members are: **Chris Perkins, Yuki Jones, Sun-Ae Patterson and Akiko Morris.** The BFC Council is very happy to add this talent to our team. We feel a good balance of age, experience, gender and background are essential for truly representing BFC. The community has chosen well as we have a nice balance.

On June 18 we had a brief training for our new council members and held our elections for the new officer positions. We incorporated a Dynamic Governance election process which the council has found useful and effective. The new positions are: Chair - Kester Wilkening, Co-Vice Chairs - Chris

Perkins and Jessica Sattinger, Treasurer - Yuki Jones, Administrator - Peter Reiner, Communications - Lynn Walsh, Scribe - Sun-Ae Patterson, Refreshments - Akiko Morris. We all feel excited about the dynamic of our new team!

These last meetings have been bittersweet as we will not be seeing as much of the three outgoing council members. During the year, witnessing the investment of council member's insight, heart and time for the sake of the community. We give a huge thank you to Steve Honey, Elisa Hack and Justin Okamoto. Each of you were a unique and necessary part of making the council successful, you will be missed.

## Change in Rev. Kone's Hours

We all have been very pleased with Dr. Kone's great sermons, warm caring nature and spiritual maturity. Our new Head Pastor jumped into his position with his whole heart and both feet - often giving 70 hours a week. In the BFC job description, Dr. Kone is required to work 40 hours a week. The reality is Dr. Kone now has student loans for which he needs to take responsibility. For this reason he has accepted a 20-hour/week position as Director of Student Life at UTS. Although he will not be as available for our community as he was previously, Dr. Kone is committed to fulfilling his responsibility as our Head Pastor. His new hours are attached. This decrease in Dr. Kone's availability is another reason hiring Justin Okamoto and a new Administrative Assistant is important (see article below). If you have any concerns, please feel free to talk to Dr. Kone or anyone on the Council.

## Camp Sunrise Board Member Search

BFC is blessed with the close proximity of Camp Sunrise and all it has to offer for our children's summer camps and special services, workshops and family outings. The success of the camp depends not only on our able staff but also good business management and oversight provided by the Camp Sunrise Board. We are grateful for Danso Sawamukai who has done an excellent job serving as Board Chair for his agreed six months. But as he is stepping down we are looking for others who would be willing to represent BFC on the CS Board. This is an important role because, as you may remember, our community has agreed to pay for 40% of any debts Camp Sunrise accrues if business and income fall short. Please let council members, Jessica Sattinger and Yuki Jones, know if you are interested or could make a recommendation for the board ASAP.

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Kester Wilkening  
Chairperson



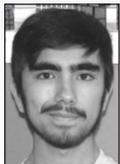
Jessica Sattinger  
Vice Chairperson



Chris Perkins  
Vice Chairperson



Lynn Walsh  
Communications



Yuki Jones  
Treasurer



Sun-Ae Patterson  
Scribe



Peter Reiner  
Administrator



Akiko Morris  
Councilor

The Belvedere Family Church Council  
welcomes your input!

Please email your comments,  
questions or suggestions to

[bfc-council@googlegroups.com](mailto:bfc-council@googlegroups.com)

## Changes In Paid Staff

It is difficult for us to imagine all that our pastor has to do from day to day in leading and caring for our community. There have been a few changes in some of the positions that support Dr. Kone. Elisa Hack decided to step down as Administrative assistant, as her regular job occupies much of her time. Thank you, Elisa, for all your faithful assistance to our pastor. We are happy to be hiring Chiaki Hagiwara to fill this position and think this will be a good fit. In terms of more pastoral support, Rev. Daryl Clark has been serving as Associate Pastor, however, juggling his pastor role at the Brooklyn Church and this role at the same time was not easy. Because of this, Rev. Clarke will be stepping down from a paid role. We thank Rev. Clarke who has served our community in many key roles throughout the years.

Dr. Kone felt that he needed an Assistant Pastor whose job would be to provide more direct support in pastoring the church with a focus on Sunday Service. In following Mother's direction, Dr. Kone believes that this position should be filled by a younger person who desires mentoring for a future pastoral role. With this in mind Justin Okamoto was re-hired as Assistant Pastor for at least six months. As he has taken on this role before, we know Justin can slip into his responsibilities smoothly.

Our Sunday School Director is also changing. As you know Cynthia Shibuya has been directing the Sunday School for over 20 years with a high spiritual standard, motherly heart and good management. Cynthia has stepped down as of June. Parents, please thank her personally. To fill this position, we are lucky to welcome Yiru Sugihara as our new Sunday School Director. We are fortunate as Yiru brings much experience and zeal to our Sunday School starting in the fall.

## Council Prepares for Community's Involvement in Creating our BFC Mission Statement

*Council Mission Statement: "Our mission is to be a driving force for the community, and to support the Head Pastor, by establishing a clear organizational structure and thriving financial base, resulting in a vibrant, God-centered culture within our families and community."*

At the beginning of our council meetings we often reflect for a few moments on our Council mission statement. We ask ourselves: "Does this describe our purpose as the Council and if so, how well are we and how well am I doing?" As our time is limited, it is valuable to have clarity and agreed upon objectives and values to keep us on track. The process of creating together our council mission statement last fall, forced us to do some valuable thinking about the function, purpose and core values of the council.

Not surprisingly, the BFC survey completed last winter indicated that there were many different opinions about what the main focus should be for our community. In order to be a more effective church community we think it is a wise investment to spend time and energy defining our fundamental purpose and values. Dr. Kone is a strong proponent of clarifying purpose through a Community Mission Statement. Dr. Kone, Kester Wilkening, and Susan Bouachri are being trained as facilitators by Naokimi Ushiroda for a community mission statement session, yes, to involve you! We will announce possible dates soon to see when the most number of people can attend.

## Upcoming Council Meeting

Our next Council [business meeting](#) is scheduled for Monday August 22nd, from 7:30 to 9:30pm, at the White House.

August 2016						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

**IMPORTANT NOTE FOR VISITORS:** Visitors are very welcome - but please be aware that our agenda is usually very full. If visitors would like to suggest an issue to be discussed or to be given time to express an opinion, they should contact the council (any council member) [at least one week before the meeting](#).