

LEFC Elder Meeting Summary

June 3rd, 2025

Location: LEFC Patio

Time: 6:58 PM

Elders Present: Joel Lingenfelter, Gary Hoover, Kurt Zimmerman, Tyler Ranck, Matt Sowada, Eric Wenger, Corey Mitchell, Dan Heller, Dave Cox, DJ Weaver, Phil True

Guests: Caden Sowada, Ethan Zook, Tyler Tommasi

Elders Absent: Tony Hunt (Sabbatical), Blake Herr

Prayer - Proverbs 2:1-11 read by Tyler Ranck

- Elders spent time in prayer for the body at LEFC, Global Partners, IEFC, Tony sabbatical and multiplication.

Welcome to Dan & Kurt

- Dan Heller and Kurt Zimmerman were welcomed and able to share some life updates with the board.

Sunday in the Park Debrief – Tyler Ranck and Joel Lingenfelter

- Elders discussed the Sunday in the Park decision process and heard testimony of the deeper relationship forged deeper with Lititz Springs Park through the process. LEFC made the decision to cancel given the condition of the park and the negative impact it would have had on the park. The officials for the park were relieved and very open to hosting the baptisms at the spring even though the Service was cancelled from being held at the park.
- The testimonies were encouraging and shared well.
 - o We make a point to ask those giving testimony if there is someone they would want in the water with them (i.e. who has walked with them, been instrumental in their walk, etc...)
 - o Suggestion: Announcing to those in the crowd to welcome them to make the decision to be baptized.
- Created to Praise had a huge impact on invitations and to see the kids lead worship was a blessing.
- Lots of people wanting to get connected after this Sunday.

Approval of Minutes

- 5/20 Elder Minutes approved without objection

Ministry Pipeline Update – Matt Sowada and Corey Mitchell

- Equip the saints for ministry – Eph. 4 – how does this look?
 - o Teaching Pathway
 - o Leadership Pathway
 - o Shepherding Pathway – care for the body in a counseling context (ex. leading re:gen, one-on-one context)
 - o Ministers Pathway – husbands and wives can meet with our former or retired pastors
 - Global Pathway – interested in paid ministry
 - Local Pathway – interested in paid ministry
- Ministers Pathway – 8 interested couples, 18 retired pastors
 - o Help new couples to wrap their minds around what it looks like to enter ministry well.
 - o Some of these former pastors may also be interested in a PT role. Currently the ones in this category are ready to engage these contexts.
 - o This sets us up for a good launch into revitalization or church planting.
 - o Most of these couples looking to enter full time ministry are serving but the hope is to ignite them and launch them well – potentially somewhere else.
 - o The goal is to steward this call that others have on their life.
 - o Starting in ABFs for multiplication to identify people who are ready to go.
 - o Discussion:
 - Affirmed calling on both the husband and wife to do this together.

- IEFC as a current need and seeing this opportunity to feed IEFC.
- Any church that could give some models on how to see this play out? Bringing on apprenticeship and 5-year plan could be a residency. Is this a higher education alternative? Not necessarily, but it will likely be played out by the individual in the pipeline.
- What is the on ramp for each of these pathways – Elders/staff?? Most of the time this is dependent on, “Who does Matt know?”. Looking to expand this but for the time being this is a way to evaluate good candidates.
 - ABFs are a prime area for identification of individuals.
 - Suggestion- online tool on how or where they intersect with LEFC?? Identify giftings, low commitment in a mid-size gathering. Calling, preparation and understanding of those gifts.
- These pipelines are like “major” tracks at a university model – following the Teaching Church rock.
- Elders affirmed Matt and Corey to launch these various pipelines to invest and develop and steward the people and gifts God has given to LEFC.

New Term Kickoff/Administration – Tyler Ranck

- Staff/Elder Relationships
 - o Discuss previous year and re-state purpose – seek monthly meetings, advise for conflicts to be navigated with their supervisor, purpose to care for the staff.
 - o Assignments of new cycle
 - Elders confirmed staff/elder assignments.
- Officer Assignments & Approval
 - o Chair – Tyler Ranck
 - o Vice Chair – Corey Mitchell
 - o Treasurer – DJ Weaver
 - o Secretary – Blake Herr
 - o Motion: As the positions are stated above, these four will be the officers of the board. MSC
- Rising Leaders
 - o Briefly update assignments/nominations
 - o Finalize later along with re-stated objectives
 - Confirmed the 1 year left of those in the program.
- Overview of board functionality; non-sitting utilization

What’s Ahead? – Tyler Ranck

- Feedback from assessment
- Potential long-form discussions ahead
- Prayer for the term ahead
- Goal to strike the balance between the communication of staff and what is happening, and how do we dedicate significant time on elder wisdom and discernment. Care and need for the body as a focus. Long-form discussion – For example the talk about multiplication front and how do we cast vision?

Miscellaneous Items

- ABF Visit Schedule – Philippians June 8
- Dinner Hosts

Prayer - Meeting ended in prayer.