

# LEFC Elder Meeting Summary

September 2, 2025 - 7:00PM  
LEFC Office

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

Guests: N/A

Elders Absent: Gary Hoover

| AGENDA ITEMS                                                                                                                                      | Type        | Key Messages                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| <b>Prayer &amp; Sharing</b>                                                                                                                       | Information | The meeting was initiated at 7:02                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                   | Prayer      | Tyler asked the Elders if there were prayer requests to share. Several prayer requests were raised, and the Elders prayed for each request.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Approval of 8/19 Minutes-Blake</b>                                                                                                             | Decision    | The Elder meeting minutes from the August 19 <sup>th</sup> meeting were approved with no objections.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Construction Update-Joel</b>                                                                                                                   | Information | <p>The Elders walked into the crossover space and outside to visualize construction status. The following updates were provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Crossover space is expected to be completed by next week with the exception of some early (not fully implemented) technology. Daniel has really been working hard on infrastructure and technology for the crossover space.</li><li>• Electrical connections to the church have to be re-routed. Plans are in place for this re-route.</li><li>• The manhole work materials have arrived (within approximately the 8 week timeframe from the timing of the order)</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Rising Leader Assignments- Tyler</b>                                                                                                           | Decision    | Tyler opened the discussion on rising leaders by asking if there are any more names who need to be added to the list. The list was reviewed and new names were suggested. The names were considered for who should be prioritized for the rising leader program this year. Names were assigned to the open Elders (Elders who have not yet been assigned).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Family Ministry – Fall Launch Highlights- Matt</b><br>Provide updates of what is happening in the various ministry areas starting in September | Information | <p>The staff have considered key milestone for children as they progress in ages. For example, a big one is the transition from 4-5 grades and 6-7 grades. The staff have considered how can these key milestones be celebrated?</p> <p>Childrens ministry areas have placed focus on learning how explore the bible. Bibles have been purchased for all first-grade students (and signed by Tony). Classes are full (there are 50 three-year-olds). There is a birthday cart being placed into the lobby. The staff are writing a note for each person with a birthday within the month. There are other bins planned to celebration of other milestones.</p> <p>The IMAGO DEI ministry is focused on caring for adults with special needs. It was reported that people are coming to the church because this ministry exists.</p> <p>Crossover is being led by Nick and Caleb. Caleb will oversee Sunday nights and Nick will oversee Sunday mornings. Movement towards less of a split between junior high and senior high and more of a streamlined integrated approach.</p> <p>Adult Ministry - Both Re-Gen and Re-Engage will begin a new cycle this fall. Both ministries have excellent participation, with many volunteers stepping into significant ownership roles. In addition, this Sunday marks the return of our ABF's for the coming year.</p> |

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|                                                                                                                                                              |          | <p>Pastors Pathway, a new program to provide mentorship and training to people who are feeling the call to full-time ministry, has launched with approximately 20 people attending. Feedback was excellent.</p> <p>There was a praise associated with Women's Bible Fellowship that ladies are excited to come together at church. They will cover Titus in the Fall and Joshua in the Spring.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| <b>Member Exit Interview Process-</b> Tyler<br>Clarify steps when a member leaves; Determine which elders would take turns reaching out with follow-up calls | Decision | <p>Tyler kicked off the topic with the question to the elders about the process steps needed for when a member leaves the church. For example, a proposal for the process is that staff would receive the message and would contact an elder to go through the question list.</p> <p>A decision was taken that Kurt Zimmerman, Phil True, and Matt Sowada will be the Elders who head up the process.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Tony Sabbatical Debrief-</b><br>Tony                                                                                                                      |          | <p>Tony provided an overview of his sabbatical. His first words were that it was a fantastic 3 months. To compare to the 2018 sabbatical, the value of the first one was the allowance to stop and get some refreshed bearings. In the first sabbatical, Tony went to Isreal, and this really increased his hunger for the word of God. However, the first sabbatical did not include as much dedicated time with Kristen.</p> <p>This current sabbatical included a very intention time with Kristen, and this was such a rich time together. The trip to Hawaii was the first multi-day trip with just Kristen since their honeymoon.</p> <p>The sabbatical included travel to Wisconsin where he met with two other pastors. Then he travelled to Des Moines Iowa for a conference with Larry Osborne (a gifted visionary). Tony was able to have an unexpected one on one lunch with Larry and discuss current cultural trends that are affecting the church. This was a tremendous gift to be able spend this time with Larry.</p> <p>After that, they were able to spend time with family in Kansas. It was noteworthy to see the impact that LEFC is having even on people watching online. The final six weeks were spent either in Lititz, or at the cabin. He also attended a conference where he was able to spend time with a Greek expert and studied the book of Hebrews.</p> <p>Tony reported feeling very refreshed and super strong in his marriage.</p> |
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| <b>Other Notes</b>                                                                                                                                           |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dinner Hosts Sign Up</li> <li>- Retreat Reminder – Save the dates: October 2-4</li> </ul>                           |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

**Next Elders' Meeting: September 16, 2025**  
**6pm @ Wenger Home**