

# LEFC Elder Meeting Summary

October 21, 2025 – 7:00 PM

Zimmerman Home

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

Guests: N/A

Elders Absent: Eric Wenger

AGENDA ITEMS	Type	Key Messages
Prayer	Prayer Requests	Tyler asked the elders to share prayer requests. Several requests and praises were raised, and the elders prayed for each item.
<b>Approval of 9/16 and elder retreat meeting Minutes-</b> Blake	Decision	The elder meeting minutes from the Sept 16 were approved with no objections.
<b>Retreat Debrief-</b> -Review retreat actions/takeaways and affirm task forces	Discussion  Actions	<p>The elders discussed the 5-year vision document and made adjustments to the task force responsibilities. They agreed to continue working on the draft document. The group explored the possibility of kicking off church planting efforts by identifying interested individuals through an open forum, similar to their mobilization strategy.</p> <p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task Force 1 to continue working on the plumb lines document</li> <li>Task Force 2 to continue working on the rubric</li> </ul>
<b>Response to letter</b>	Decision  Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The group discussed the potential partnership with a church member, noting his unique journey and the potential benefits of engaging him in leadership development.</li> <li>It was agreed it would be good for this person to meet with the elder board. The more he has opportunity to interact with maturity and wisdom will be helpful, and it could facilitate the elder board also to discern next steps for partnering.</li> <li>There was agreement to continue moving forward with the “plumb lines” documentation.</li> <li>Communication and Response Approach: The group considered how to communicate their response to the letter agreeing the response should affirm a willingness to engage in a discernment journey rather than a commitment to a specific outcome.</li> <li>The next steps were agreed with actions recorded.</li> </ul>
<b>Board Requests</b> - EFCA ordination - questionnaire	Decision  Actions	<p>There was a discussion regarding request for recommendation for EFCA ordination. The board agreed to make a recommendation. There was a motion to write a letter of affirmation with recognition of a call of ordination and that this would be recommended to the EFCA.</p> <p>A notification received linked to a need to complete a questionnaire.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The next steps were agreed with actions recorded.</li> </ul>
<b>Congregational Meeting Outline</b> -Review of proposed agenda	Decision	<p>The following agenda was proposed for the Congregational Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome:</li> <li>Worship:</li> <li>Approval of Minutes from May 2025 Congregational Meeting:</li> <li>Confirmation of New Members:</li> <li>Project 2:42 &amp; Financial Update:</li> <li>Guided Time of Prayer:</li> <li>Testimony from Southeast Asia: Indonesia Team Discussion on Teaching &amp; Multiplication:</li> <li>Prayer and Closing</li> </ul>

	Actions	<p>There was a suggestion to included additional testimony during the update on Southeast Asia; to have second and younger person (could be either one or both).</p> <p>The worship agenda topic was discussed and agreed it should be intentional and purposeful. There was a motion to pair up with the prayer time with the worship time which was seconded and passed without objection.</p> <p>The group reviewed and approved the outline for an upcoming congregational meeting, which will include worship, prayer, teaching on the four rocks, and updates on various church activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next steps were agreed with actions recorded.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <p>-Event instead of Sunday in the Park</p> <p>-If we plan an event for next summer, what is the primary goal that we should hope to accomplish?</p>	<p>Discussion</p> <p>Actions</p>	<p>Tony shared his experience with Praise in the Park, a church event that has evolved over 30 years. He described how it started as a church picnic and later became a praise celebration, eventually transitioning to a Sunday morning service in the park. Tony highlighted a powerful moment when a teenage girl was baptized and later reconciled with her father, which led to incorporating baptisms into the event. He emphasized the importance of community and outreach, noting that they stopped advertising and relied on personal connections to drive attendance.</p> <p>The elders reflected on the historical significance of the “Praise in the Park” event and discussed possible alternatives given current facility constraints. Options considered included utilizing local parks, schools, or private venues, and balancing outreach objectives with opportunities for congregational unity.</p> <p>There are two vision category options including: 1) Sunday morning where all of LEFC is together (LEFC community) or 2) a collective experience that is more of an outreach into the community.</p> <p>Practical Considerations: Logistical challenges, weather dependencies, and the complexity of organizing large-scale events were acknowledged. The group also highlighted the value of collective worship, outreach opportunities, and the need for creative solutions aligned with the church’s core mission.</p> <p>Elders were encouraged to continue discerning the best path forward with a plan to revisit these discussions at future meetings after further prayer and reflection.</p> <p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next steps were agreed with actions recorded.</li> </ul>

**Next Elders’ Meeting: November 4, 2025 Church Office**