

LEFC Elder Meeting Summary

May 5, 2026 – 7:00 PM

Church Office

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

Guests: Dan Gallagher

Elders Absent: N/A

AGENDA ITEMS	Type	Key Messages
Prayer for the Body		The elders spent time praying for requests associated to the church body. A series of prayer requests were raised and the elder entered into a time of prayer.
Approval of Apr 21 meeting Minutes- Blake	Decision	The elder meeting minutes from the Apr 21 meeting were approved with no objections.
Non-Sitting Elders	Discussion/ Decision	<p>The meeting focused on discussing the role of non-sitting elders and plans for engaging them more effectively. The newly created non-sitting elder guideline was discussed for future inclusion in the elder handbook. Tyler explained the purpose of the document aimed at formalizing the non-sitting elder role and ensuring their active participation in ministry and congregation shepherding. The group discussed the importance of having former sitting elders transition into non-sitting roles, while also considering potential alternatives for individuals with extensive ministry experience who were never elders.</p> <p>The conversation continued regarding the plan to meet with non-sitting elders during the second service to gather feedback and discuss their potential areas of specialty within the congregation. Corey is leading this meeting on Sunday May 10th.</p> <p>Specific feedback was discussed on the proposed non-sitting elder document.</p> <p>The elders discussed if there is a “minimum requirement” for ministry involvement for someone to remain as a non-sitting elder? There is an expectation that a non-sitting elder would determine an area of ministry focus. This may not necessarily mean they are leading, but they are shepherding. There was a suggestion that the elders first identify specific areas where shepherding could be helpful, and then align/ assign non-sitting elders rather than asking the non-sitting elders to identify their own ministry area assignments.</p> <p>The elders reviewed the process for determining if a non-sitting elder should exit. This was suggested to be the role of the nominating committee, with the help and input of the elder vice chair who is overseeing the non-sitting elders noting that the vice-chair input would be important to the nominating committee for that decision making.</p> <p>There was also discussion about the need for further clarification regarding the explanation of those holding the staff title “pastor”.</p>
Details for Congregational Meeting	Discussion	<p>Tyler led a discussion about the upcoming congregational meeting agenda, outlining the planned format and assignments for various segments including new member introductions, leadership updates, and Project 2:42 construction progress. The team discussed how to present the construction updates, with Joel planning to show photos of the new spaces being created, including the G56 adult classroom and relocated kid ministry rooms. The meeting will include a brief financial update from DJ and conclude with a ministry spotlight featuring stories from different demographics, including adult men, senior girls, and children, with specific segments planned for each group. The conversation ended with discussion of a multiplication strategy presentation, which would include elements about teacher development, a practical example from Immanuel church, and an invitation for prayer</p> <p>The elders discussed the invitation for prayer including an initiative that would involve different areas including church planting, revitalization, and leader development. The team discussed creating a handout with visual maps showing three key areas (Adamstown, Denver/Cocalico, and Landisville/East Petersburg) and exploring ways to invite congregation members to participate, including hosting prayer sites at home. They also</p>

		<p>considered incorporating examples of teacher development pathways, particularly highlighting WBF's progress in moving participants to table leaders and facilitators.</p> <p>Announcements for the upcoming congregational meeting were discussed. The group decided to have elders make personal invitations at various ABF (Adult Bible Fellowship) groups, with Matt offering to create a sign-up sheet for this task.</p>
AI Policy Approval	Discussion/ Decision	This agenda item was not discussed due to time constraints.
Multiplication: Next Steps	Discussion/ Decision	The elders discussed plans for an upcoming Q&A session about church planting, tentatively scheduled for June 7th during second service. It will be an informal panel discussion by any available elders and details will be discussed at the next meeting.
Summary of Actions	Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tyler- action- add to nominating committee meeting agenda the responsibility to review non-sitting elders and determine if any reason to ask them to exit as non-sitting elder • Joel- Update at Congregational meeting should tie into Julia's report on children's ministry rooms • Tony- Prepare an announcement to the congregation May 17th regarding the Congregational meeting • Matt- Send out a sign up for elders to attend ABFs- Elders are asked to attend ABFs on May 10th to encourage people to attend the Congregational meeting. • All elders: Complete annual evaluations and send overall board feedback to Tyler before May 19th meeting • Tyler- Coordinate future elder discussion to follow up on the non-sitting elder/ pastor topic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Misc Business – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt Sowada Ordination and Sabbatical 5/17 • Reminder to complete Annual Evaluations by 5/19 • -Rising Leader Attendance Sign Up 	Update	<p>The meeting also covered plans for Matt's ordination and sabbatical celebration on May 17th. Cedric will perform the formal presentation of the certificate to Matt. Elders will be asked to come up on stage with 2 elders praying for Matt. After the ordination prayer, then the topic will switch to the sabbatical with a single prayer (Corey).</p> <p>The elders were asked to prepare their annual evaluations in advance of the next meeting for discussion.</p>
Feedback from Dan Gallagher	Feedback	Observed repeated intentionality throughout the meeting. During the meeting, there was a time of intentional prayer.

Next Elders' Meeting: May 19, 2026

Heller Home

6:00 PM