

## **Elder Meeting Summary**

**07/28/26**

*Absent – Matt Sowada, Kurt Zimmerman*

### **Quick recap (from Zoom AI)**

The elder board meeting focused on several key topics including the approval of minutes from previous meetings, with Darryl being appointed as secretary to replace Chip.

Joel facilitated a tour of the new Education Wing (2 floors, ~ 17,000 square feet).

The board discussed positive feedback from a recent cultural engagement event featuring Christopher Alam, where multiple people responded for prayer and at least one person gave their life to Christ. They reviewed reports from prayer gatherings held at different locations, with the Denver-Adamstown group showing significant readiness and maturity for potential church planting.

Financial updates indicated church giving was on target to meet or slightly exceed the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year-End budget. The elders discussed the building addition project and the status of current giving verses budget target. In late July or early August, LEFC will need to borrow money for the first time to cover upcoming construction costs. Tony was asked to provide a letter and video update in the second week of August.

The board also discussed potential expenditures including auditorium and stage lighting improvements and the need to replace the 2002 van.

Lastly, the elders reviewed progress on the church planting evaluation process, with Tom and Chip expected to present their findings at the next elder meeting on August 18th.

### **Action Item Summary**

1. Elders – continue to pray for the Prayer Gatherings, Multiplication Effort, and Tom and Chip’s 8/18/26 update.
2. Elders and Staff – pray for and follow-up with individuals who responded to alter call after the Chris Alam services.
3. Tony – provide Project Giving Update in an upcoming LEFC weekly update (letter and video - 2<sup>nd</sup> week of August).
4. Elders – Prepare questions and discussion points for the 8/18 meeting regarding LEFC’s guiding principles for Multiplication and enthusiasm for different church models or practices.
5. Elders – Tyler welcomes input in agenda items, topics, for our upcoming home meetings, and elder retreat.
6. Elders - Next Elders’ Meeting: August 18, 2026 @ 6 PM

### **Meeting Minutes and Action Items (Outline Form)**

1. Approval of previous meeting minutes – Tyler
  - a. **The elder meeting minutes from the 6/9/26 and 7/7/26 meetings were approved with no objections.**
2. Elder Secretary Update – Tyler
  - a. Discussion about secretary change
    - i. Tyler, Chip, and Darryl spoke after the 7/7/26 meeting. Darryl volunteered to begin in the Secretary role now, as opposed to waiting six months. Based on the discussion, Tyler and Chip agreed.

**ii. Tyler asked for a motion for Darryl Preziosi to become Secretary – Chip made motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by DJ Weaver. All in favor, none opposed.**

**3. Education Wing – New Building Tour – Joel**

- a. Joel facilitated tour of both floors (~17,000 square feet of new space), explaining the rooms and their use, and answering questions from the elders.
- b. Gary Hoover prayed thanking God for His faithfulness and all that He has done at LEFC over the years after looking out the lower-level windows across to The Mill.

**4. Engaging Culture – Chris Alam – Tony**

- a. Tony – all positive comments, many people appreciated the preaching on Sunday and the teaching session on Monday evening.
- b. Impactful to and opened the eyes of many - God is working in Muslim countries and that God is working among Muslim people.
- c. Multiple people each service (14 people in total) responded to Chris' invitation for prayer and at least one person responded to receive Christ.
- d. Tony shared more about his discussions with Chris and his theology, particularly around the prosperity Gospel, and Tony shared he had no concerns with Chris' theology.
- e. Chip thanked Tony for his courage and obedience. Chip was in the Encounter Room and affirmed that a number of people were impacted.

**5. Prayer Gathering Updates – Tony and Gary**

- a. Denver/Adamstown – 14 people attended
  - i. Gary attended - @ Ross and Emily Unruh's home. People all lived within 10 minutes of each other.
  - ii. Gary's assessment – core group enthusiastic - they are ready to start now.
  - iii. Young couples and older couples – gifted people.

- iv. The group will meet again in a month.
  - b. E Petersburg – 4 people attended
    - i. Gary attended – the host couple prayed for churches in their area. The couple has the ability to invite others to their prayer gatherings and to facilitate this.
  - c. Cornwall – 8 to 10 are signed up (future)
  - d. Landisville – 4 to 6 are signed up (future)
  - e. People are praying for these meetings.
  - f. Phil and Chip prayed for the upcoming meetings.
6. Financial Reports – Joel
- a. Estimated YE Fiscal Results
    - i. On Track with Income and Expenses against \$4.2M fiscal year budget. Giving is anticipated to exceed budget.
    - ii. The budget is on track
    - iii. Building Project – we have not borrowed any money at this point. Anticipating we will borrow in late July or early August (first time and maybe last time).
  - b. Priorities that may be outside of budget
    - i. Church Van – 2002 Dodge Caravan desperately needs replaced with an 11-passenger van. The van is failing PA state inspections.
    - ii. We have an 11-passenger van now but will need a second one.
    - iii. Solar Credit Refund - Update on the Form 990 filing with the IRS, which has been delayed due to administrative issues and ongoing communication with the IRS and Representative Smucker's office.
  - c. Project Giving Update and Scenarios
    - i. Are at ~\$4.9M collected
    - ii. Goal is \$5.5M by mid-September and \$5.8M by calendar year end.

- iii. July draws ~ \$750k. Will need to borrow for the first time to cover future payments and costs.
- d. Request for Lighting Upgrades
  - i. Last spring – elders approved network upgrades
  - ii. Church database – was antiquated – elders approved ROCK. This resulted in an additional spend that was previously approved by the elders.
  - iii. Audio/Video/Lights – We have dark spots on stage and other issues. This will be further evaluated and discussed at the 8/18 meeting.
- 7. Questions from Church Planter Team - Chip
  - a. Update and Next Steps
    - i. Tom Daly and Chip believe that tomorrow evening (7/29) will be the last meeting with potential church planter.
    - ii. Tom will provide a full update at the 8/18/26 elder meeting.
      - 1. If the decision by the elders is made on 8/18/26 to move forward, that would kick off a formal interview process.
  - b. Direction Needed from Elders:
    - i. The elders had a discussion around pastoral selection, alignment, and the impacts it would have on LEFC people enthusiastically getting behind the multiplication effort.
- 8. Miscellaneous Updates
  - a. What's Ahead
    - i. Tyler – welcomes input in agenda items, topics, for our upcoming home meetings, and elder retreat.
    - ii. Darryl closed in prayer.

**Next Elders' Meeting: August 18, 2026 @ 6 PM**