

**LANCASTER EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH**  
**Elder Board Meeting Summary**  
**June 4, 2024**

Attendees: Dave Cox, Tom Daly, Chip Mershon, Tyler Ranck, Corey Mitchell, Phil True, Matt Sowada, Joel Lingenfelter, DJ Weaver, Eric Wenger

Absent: Ed Scheuerman, Gary Hoover, Tony Hunt

**I. Opening Items**

- This was a business meeting that was held in the LEFC conference room
- Tyler called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm
- Corey spent 15-20 minutes reading/sharing from Jonah  
*There was a time of prayer for the church and our oikos.*
  
- The minutes for May 21, 2024 were approved after slight corrections were made.
  
- *Sunday in the Park Debrief*
  - Immanuel felt welcomed.
  - Bob Travis and Carmen Walton are Rockstars!
  - Should we have a prayer tent?
    - Especially if we are going to be a praying church...
  - Last two years – surprised at the number of former LEFCers who attend.
  - It was a great day. Kids. Young families. Created to Praise makes this an easy invite!
  
- *Welcome Back Eric!*
  - Eric gave us an update...He's been off the elder board for 3 years now. Perfect timing – 3 graduations in those 3 years. About to experience empty nest AND 25 years of marriage.
  - Eric has great OIKOS opportunities in his life at the moment.
  - 6/19 he'll be speaking at the Lititz BCN.

**II. New Term Kickoff/Administration**

- *Staff/Elder relationships*
  - Reminder of the purpose – Our role is to come alongside to encourage, support, pray. Check the Elder Handbook for details. NOT a supervisory or directive relationship. Any conflict or issues...please point to the proper staff channels. The process is stated in the Elder Handbook.
  - What types of conversations are you having?
    - Prayer life? Devotional life? Marriage? What are you struggling with?
    - One staff member really appreciates the intentionality of being pursued.
    - Consistency and intentionality of caring for staff.
    - Is there anything that is lacking clarity of what the elders are working on?
  - Tyler will send out the Elder Handbook. It will be revised in the next few months. Please read and make note of changes that might be needed for when we discuss at a future date.
  - Elders and Staff pairings were affirmed/confirmed.

- *2024-2025 Elder Board Officer Assignments:*
  - Chair – Tyler Ranck
  - Vice-Chair – Corey Mitchell
  - Treasurer – DJ Weaver
  - Secretary – Phil True

\*\*Chip Mershon made a motion to approve the officers as listed. Seconded by Eric Wenger. All approved.

*We reviewed a list of potential Rising Leaders. Tyler will send the list out and we will finalize the names and pairings at our next meeting.*

One possibility is to target potential 1 year Rising Leaders (who were heavily involved in leadership at another church, so the purpose is alignment). They could be used in future multiplication contexts.

- *Review of protocol/expectations*
  - Agenda setting. Tyler, as chair, is an organizer of agenda items.
  - Role of BLT – Board Leadership Team. They meet together to discern what the pressing issues are for the board to wrestle with. Key issues that should be brought to the board. Shouldn't be decisions made by this smaller group.
    - **Caution** – make sure there isn't a board within the board.
      - Ex – Leadership transitions
    - If there is reservation or concerns that things are moving too fast...Please feel the freedom to hit a pause button!
    - Very intentionally thinking through the leadership succession. We need to be thinking about the Chair and the Treasurer roles several years out.
  - We are certainly able to and encouraged to send emails...Food for thought, articles, etc. But we aren't expected to reply all and make motions/decisions via email.
- *What's ahead for this term?*
  - Elder Handbook re-vamp
  - How does the elder board scale to serve a growing church?
  - Updates on Mobilization and Teacher Pathway
  - Retreat – What does the future look like?
    - Long term capacity on our campus. Number of services, etc.
    - Multiplication / Church in a box.
  - Staff at the Elder retreat will be re-reading Sticky Teams. We would join them! More specific feedback on this coming soon.
  - Job Descriptions, Hirings, - We need to revisit the process.
  - How can we be known as the shepherds of a growing congregation?

### III. Pastoral Updates:

- *Staff Update*
  - Julie Reed (Early Childhood Coordinator) is stepping down at the end of June.
  - Charity Englehart (Youth Admin) – is stepping down in August.
  - Sandy Morris was hired as the Disability Coordinator.
- *Immanuel update*
  - Hired Gary Christman. Will start at Immanuel the 1<sup>st</sup> week of August after vacation.

\*\* Dave Cox motions to affirm the decision to hire Gary Christman as the Senior Pastor of Immanuel EFC. Chip seconded this motion. Unanimous affirmation.

- Elders discussed who to approach to pray about potentially serving as a sent elder at Immanuel Evangelical Free Church.

**IV. Project Updates**

- *Parking Timing*
  - Submitted to Township and waiting on engineer and another agency to approve.
- *Funding the Vision Team*
  - No update
- *Building Advisory Team*
  - We aren't looking to create a large bottleneck.
  - Core group of people who can be involved in the decision-making process. Wade into the details so that it's not the elder board diving into the specs of each decision. Hope is to narrow down the decisions.

**V. Misc Items**

- *Immanuel Bank Transition*

\*\*DJ Weaver – motions to appoint new signers from LEFC to the Immanuel bank accounts, replacing the prior signers. Chip seconded this motion. Approved by the board.

**Next Meeting July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm at DJ Weaver's house**

The meeting closed in a time of prayer at 9:21 pm.