

## Congregational Meeting Minutes – November 2023

Tom Daly, Elder Chair, opened the meeting in prayer at 6:00 pm.

- **DJ Weaver spoke briefly about TEAM 127** and its adoption care ministry. They support orphan care through Education and Training, Social and Community events to connect families, Mentoring relationships, Grants to help fund adoption and Care Communities to provide extra support for fostering families. DJ also showed pictures of several LEFC families who have adopted either domestically or internationally.
- **Wayne and Ruth West led the congregation in the singing of hymns.**
- **The minutes from the May 2023** meeting were approved without objections or changes.
- Tom reminded us that Romans 12:5 teaches that as members of a local church such as LEFC, we belong to one another. This verse also reminds us that we each have gifts that are to be used to serve each other within the body of Christ. Tom went on to share further that the elder board and other leaders are here to serve the body of LEFC and to discern where God is leading LEFC. He affirmed that God equips each local church with the talents and abilities that are needed for serving Him.
- **Scott Galen led the elders and new member candidates in the membership approval process.** The following new members were put forth for approval: Mandy and Jason Bell Barb and Bob Buehrer Megan and Samuel Counts Monica and Connor Diver Ashley and Justin Eberly Abigail Gehman Lynn and James Herbert Ky-Leigh and Chris Leighty Becky and Rob Marshall Lucy and Steve Martin Steven Reynolds Linda Sams Emma and Stephon Smith, Evelyn and Daniel Teti Janet and William Thompson Janet and Bob Travis Patricia and Albert Travis Emily and Zach Wilkerson Carissa and Isaac Williams

**\*All candidates were approved by a voice vote, and we read the Membership Commitment together.**

- **Senior Pastor Tony Hunt spoke on “Vision for the Four Rocks”:** Pastor Tony shared the importance of a church’s leadership team constantly putting a clear vision before its members with the purpose of keeping the congregation focused on Christ and living for Him.
  - Balancing the Campus - He further reviewed “Creating Space and Expecting Harvest” and how God has blessed LEFC with many new members and has grown LEFC tremendously. He reported that our growth has been across all age levels and especially in the area of young children. Specifically, he mentioned that there are 70, two year-olds regularly attending LEFC on a Sunday morning. He went on to share how our Kidmin classes are filled and even overflowing. He reiterated that we see our role to make disciples of our young children and not just provide childcare. He reported that our sanctuary is not yet filled to an 80% capacity (900 per service – we currently average around 1100 worshippers between the two services) and we have more room for more worshippers but our Kidmin rooms are overfilled. In addition, our parking lot is full as we are now having staff and other leaders park at witness park to make as much room as possible for attendees.
    - Pastor Joel affirmed verbally and through drone footage that we are now at a point where all parking spaces are regularly filled. Pastor Joel requested that if possible, members should try and car pool or in some way reduce the number of vehicles each

family is bringing to church on Sundays. He went on to show possible plans for expanding parking. Pastor Joel reminded us that it will take about 6 months after any final plans would be drawn up before work could begin due to required permits.

- Pastor Joel further shared how we have moved an ABF to make more room for some of the overflowing KIDMIN rooms. He went on to share possible plans to expand our facilities to provide more room for kidmin, including an area for special needs children and their families. This new space would tie directly into our current secure KIDMIN area and therefore children and families would continue to be in the same area in one secure section. In addition, Joel shared how G56 could then be moved downstairs below the Junior and Senior HS which would keep all children and youth in the same general area of our building.

Pastor Tony went on to review basics of past expansion and put the following motion before the congregation. Elder DJ Weaver made a motion that was seconded by Tyler Ranck. The motion read, The Elder board makes a motion to approve the raising of \$1 million towards expansion of the parking lot, with additional funds to be used to begin planning for facility expansion. Opportunity was given for discussion and then a paper ballot was taken. Ballots were given for both members and attenders who are not members to vote on the motion. **The motion passed with 98.8% of voters affirming the motion as stated.**

Pastor Tony and elder chair Tom Daly affirmed that the money be asked for by this motion would not require taking on new debt.

- Southeast Asia – The vision for this area was started in 2018. While on an exploration trip to SE Asia in 2019, Tony had a meeting with the president of OMF. Out of this meeting a specific burden for Vietnam was affirmed. Since LEFCs involvement with Global Finger Prints 11 new churches have been planted. Pastor Tony went on to share that we are looking for God's leading in other countries in this region. There are both short term and long term opportunities for gospel work in SE Asia which leadership is currently exploring. LEFC has several Global partners throughout different parts of the world. One of our global partners was working with Bible translation with oral languages in African countries but doors were recently closed for this work to continue. As this door in Africa closed, a request was then made of LEFC to become involved in translation work in Indonesia.
- Teaching Church – Pastor Tony shared how new attenders regularly share that they are coming here because their past church has stopped preaching from the Word of God. The vision was shared that LEFC wants to be available to encourage other churches to continue to follow and honor Christ and stay true to His word. Pastor Tony set forth the vision of LEFC becoming a "Teaching Church" in the same way that our society has teaching hospitals. Becoming a Teaching Church would involve multiplying leaders and teachers that go out and serve and train others in other churches and areas of our country and world. Our world needs more Biblically trained teachers at a time when traditional seminaries are dwindling and there are fewer and fewer well trained pastoral candidates available.
- Multiplication – Pastor Tony shared how God appears to be opening doors for us to be involved in helping another church that is struggling. There is a meeting on December 6<sup>th</sup> to explore whether or not this is a relationship God is leading us into. He also shared the importance of all members of LEFC becoming disciple-makers and that we have a

“multiplying mindset”. Pastor Tony shared a model of multiplying from the book “A Master Plan of Discipleship”.

- Jeff Travis next shared further how important it is that we all become disciple-makers. He shared some barriers that he has heard others share as to why they were not more purposeful in multiplying disciples. Pastor Jeff shared about a booklet that has been put together to assist and give direction as to how to disciple others. This resource takes deeper marks of being a disciple of Christ and explores each one and how a person can grow and help others to grow. This booklet is in the final stages of being completed and will soon be available for members to use.

- **Close of Meeting:** Wendy Andrews closed the meeting with prayer at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Andrews  
Elder Secretary