

Elders Board Minutes – April 9, 2024

Elders present (Absent): Bob Hinze, (Bobby Merritt), Brad Owens, Brian Salvey, Chuck Tomac, David Lane, Jonathan Payne, Mike Sheets, Steve Schmidt, Tom Hester; Pastor Kevin, Pastor John

A. Regular Business Items

- Approve March Minutes - Approved through email and posted
- Directors Board Elder Representatives: Report (David, Bob) Draft DB April Minutes - **NO APRIL DB MEETING**

B. Information or Consent Agenda Items:

● Information

- **Status Reports:** Action items
- **Congregational Meeting scheduled - June 30**
- **Ministry Drafting Guide** - Provided for ministry teams to draft their 2024-25 Ministry Plan.
- **Elders CCB Notes Instructions Slide Show** - Step-by-step instructions for entering contact notes into CCB
- **Quarterly Report: Elder Flock Contacts**

2023-24 Church Year

Year	Quarter	# Family Units	# Family Units Contacted	% Contacted	% Range Contacted	% 2-way contacts	% Range 2-way
2022-2023	Year-Ave	159	154	97%	76%-100%	83%	31%-100%
2023	Oct.-Dec.	150	149	99%	94%-100%	87%	65%-100%
2024	Jan.-Mar.	160	157	98%	93%-100%	91%	73%-100%

● Quarterly Report: Pastor of Family Ministry (Pastor John)

1. Preschool Leadership Team – This month we will be celebrating National Lutheran Schools Week! That means we will have chapel in school all 5 days, we will collect donations for a local charity, and we will have some preschool children sing in church on April 28th! We are also looking to have a publicity push for our preschool this month.
2. Youth Students are signing up for “Learn the Gospel”. We are offering a group on Sunday mornings with rising 6th graders – Seniors in high school. We hope to build relationships with students before summer hits so that they will be more apt to participate in our monthly events going forward.
3. We are beginning a Parents of Preschoolers group two Tuesdays per month from 9:30 – 11:30am. It’s an effort to meet an expressed need for our preschool/church families. We will talk about issues that relate to parenting and marriage in a Christ centered environment.
4. We are excited to begin “6:15 at BSLC” on Wednesday nights. We have had many favorable responses and have already had two or three families say they are looking forward to participating in the first worship service on April 17th . Please keep this effort covered in prayer.
5. April 23 – 25, 2024 I am heading to the NOW district YFM Conference at Lutherhaven in ID. I’ve been asked to bring communion and a short message. This is a group of Youth and Family Ministers with varying degrees of training. This is my first time attending and I will let you know how it goes.
6. Our notes from the BPM conference are in, we will start to look at those in staff meetings and bring any items of interest to the Elders agenda in the future.

Prayer Time

C. Discussion/Action Items:

1. Elder Election Process – Review Elder Nominations (Qualified?) - Assign contacts

[Elder Election Process, 2024](#)

The board approved including agreement to LCMS beliefs on the sacraments (from the Elder Candidate Mentoring Guide) as a prerequisite for serving as Elder and applying that as a criteria for approving nominees at this point in the process.

The board reviewed all nominees and determined that four met eligibility and qualifications, agreeing to approve two additional nominees after verifying agreement to LCMS beliefs on the sacraments.

It was suggested we should consider proposing by-laws change to include LCMS beliefs as a prerequisite for serving as Elder.

2. Elders report back from their assigned ministry: How might they develop future leaders/volunteers for their ministry area?

Elders reported back from the following ministries: Saints Alive, Worship; March reporting included: Preschool, Discipleship, Shepherding & Congregational Care, Women

- Reports pending in May or through email: Men; Missions; Youth, Family & Children
- Tabled: Hospitality & Fellowship (until Bobby has healed)
- Proposed: Elders should develop statement/guidance on development of leaders and expectations of ministries

3. Alternative Worship Service plans

There has been positive feedback from those who participated in the planning sessions. Pastor John provided an update of plans moving ahead including that the services would be held Wednesday nights at 6:15pm and called "SIX15", beginning on April 17. Several elders shared positive comments regarding who this will serve.

4. Holy Week Review for Worship Team

In order to plan for the future, elders engaged in a discussion/review of Holy Week services, including music, number and times of services, etc. Input from the elders included support for two services on Good Friday, scheduled at similar times. There was a suggestion to consider next year a mid-day Maundy Thursday Saints Alive event (an adjusted Seder meal).

5. Plan for moving two topics forward

- **On-line Ministry Task Force** (pending since July) - Brad has agreed to lead this team which will initially meet to establish goals for the group. If any elder has an idea of someone who regularly worships online who might serve on this task force, email Brad.
- **Benevolence Fund Draft Policy/Procedures** - Elders to are to review and provide input at the May meeting

6. Impromptu Items:

Pastor John expressed appreciation for the commitment of elders to serve well.