

## Elders Board Minutes – August 8, 2023

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

### A. Regular Business Items

- Approve minutes for last month: Approved via email and posted
- Directors Board Elder Representatives Report: No August meeting yet; no report

### B. Information or Consent Agenda Items:

- **Information:**
  - **Status Reports:**
    - **Next week: Mid-way through the quarter for shepherding contacts.** Goal by August 15: two-way contact with at least 50% of flock members
  - **Quarterly live-stream participant report:** Kathy will produce this quarterly
  - **Discovery Class:** Elder rep(s) for August 19, 10:00am-12:30pm (first 30 min.); welcome into membership in September. Volunteer(s): Bob Hinze

### Prayer Time

### C. Discussion/Action Items:

#### 1. August Topic: Board facilitator and DB Reps for coming year

Board Facilitator: Brian Salvey - **Elected Unanimously**

Directors Board Reps - Volunteers: Bob Hinze, David Lane - **Elected Unanimously**

#### 2. August Topic: Review of membership & confirmation processes

##### Membership – Review of current policy

**Motion:** When a child of a family unit turns 18, they would automatically be assigned an elder. If they are confirmed, they would automatically become a voting member; otherwise they would be invited to go through the membership class and then become a member.

**Passed Unanimously** (*Pastor Kevin will add this to the membership policy.*)

- One former member is asking to become a member, as a returner. **Approved.**
- When children are confirmed, should they become voting members?  
This would require a constitutional change. Both pastors come from settings in which, once confirmed, they could vote. Elder discussion showed, with one exception, elders did not support making a change, but want to keep the voting age at 18. No decision was made to propose a change to our current practice (per constitution)

##### Confirmation

Confirmation is a year-long process that involves parents. Starts in October, if there are participants. Currently there are 3 senior high students who have not been confirmed. Confirmation content covers primarily the 10 commandments, the creed, baptism. It culminates in a faith story at the end of the year.

Once confirmed, then we want them involved in the congregation.

#### 3. August Topic: Plan for/Assign Adult Bible Classes, Sundays

Current structure: Missional partners present 5 minutes during worship, then during Bible class; The last Sunday of the month is Community Sunday with no class.

Continue to have Missional Partners present during Bible class?

**Elder Support to continue: Unanimous**

Continue to have Community Sunday (no class) the last Sunday of the month?

Discussion and comments included: Are we utilizing it well? Some businesses who have been impacted, remember that we care. It started strong, but has fallen off; not utilized well.

**No decision made; continue discussion next month.**

#### 4. Review of Ministry Budgets for possible Reductions

Ministries were asked to review their budgets for reductions. The board review of the all ministry budgets did not identify **any** areas of large increases by individual ministries. Therefore, the board would prefer that ministries not be asked to make cuts. The deficit of \$25,000 seems reasonable. **With unanimous agreement from the board**, Pastor Kevin will communicate this to the Directors Board.

### **5. Impromptu Items (5 min)**

Doug Miller has been an extremely important part of our music ministry. We should recognize him.  
This could be done at the 70th Anniversary Celebration.

#### **Tabled Items:**

- Continued discussion: Continue Community Sunday, last Sunday of month
- Feedback on Elders' Role in Baptisms
- Debrief Oaks Park Event
- POTENTIAL Annual Elder Sponsored Event