

Elders Board Minutes – September 13, 2022

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

A. Regular Business Items

- Approve minutes for last month: Approved via email

B. Information or Consent Agenda Items:

- Approved by Consent:
 - Approved Unanimously - Change in Membership: One family unit from COV: Drifted to NA: Former COV
- **Information:**
 - David will have Chuck as his mentor for his first year on the board.
 - Bobby: Approved unanimously via email to serve with Brian as Elder Reps to the DB for this year.
 - Reminder: Bless the little children (Communion)
 - Visioning Weekend (Sept. 30th–Oct. 1st) - Planned by Discipleship Team; beginning of our unveiling of a Discipleship pathway, including making disciples. Sept. 30, evening, everyone is invited.
 - John Durkin's Ordination (Jan. 7th, 2023) – President Linnemann has confirmed that he can make it that day, but we have NOT nailed down a time yet. Also: Explanation of the SMP program ([SMP Overview](#))
 - Flock Contact: Two and a half weeks left until the end of the quarter; Goal: Two-way contact with 100% of flock

Prayer Time

C. Discussion/Action Items:

1. Annual Monthly Topic: Reassignment of Elder Flocks, as needed

The board unanimously approved the proposed reassignment of Rolf's flock to David, Bob, and Chuck.

2. Minister/connect to those engaging with BSLC online

The board continued the discussion, considering whether or not to offer communion to online worshipers. The discussion included a concern for the complexity of implementing this, especially with the official LCMS, along with the challenge of determining who would qualify to take communion online.

The board unanimously decided: Offering communion to online worshipers is not necessary at this time.

3. Confirm schedule for Growth Meeting - beginning this month; examine topic options

The board decided Growth Meetings will be held at 7:00pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month, beginning in October. They will be held in the Prayer Chapel and planned to be one-hour, plus 10-15 minutes of prayer.

4. Communion Kneelers - Member Request

The board discussed issues and five options for returning to the use of kneelers for communion.

Issues to consider: Ushers not supportive of having to move the kneelers every week. Some members are not able to kneel. Time constraint.

The following proposal was unanimously approved by the board: Identify those special worship services for which we would use the kneelers. This would provide a means of testing out how much time it takes, how many actually kneel vs. those for whom it is difficult, etc.

5. Impromptu Items

Brad shared his remembrance of an Elders Board class in the past on back door losses. Historically, many of those who have drifted, eventually end up leaving the church. He encouraged elders with "Drifted" flock members to ramp up their attention and efforts toward those members with a goal of reengaging them in worship and participation at BSLC.

Next Monthly Topic: Doctrinal "check-up" – Areas needing strengthening? Living It out as a body

Possible Additional Topics: Continue discussion on other ways to engage online worshipers