

LLB Meeting Minutes: January 2022 (approved 2-28-2022)

Subject/Purpose: Regular monthly meeting

Date: Monday, January 31, 2022

Time: 5:30 PM

Place: Meeting Space 2, Christ Lincoln Sumner

Zoom connection:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85206316652?pwd=U0llejBweXFMcTRLbjJCOTluSGIBUT09>

Participants: indicates attendance

Members: Tom Lorenz (Chair), Vacant (Vice-Chair), Rick Stowell (Secretary), Kyle Kaldahl (Treasurer)

Chris Cox, Heidi Cuca, Jud Jesske, Jeff Lake, Gary Pickering, Kristy Plander, Shayla Reed

Executive staff: Michael Eckelkamp, Mike Milbourn

Invited staff: James Moseman (Director of Biblical Generosity)

Desired Outcomes of the meeting:

- COO and DoM have feedback and direction desired to advance highlighted ministry items
- Agenda set for Voter's Meeting

Agenda items

Call to order / Opening prayer: Tom opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Pastor E. led an opening time of prayers.

Minutes from prior meeting: Kristy moved (Gary 2nd) to approve the Nov/Dec meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Business Item:	Purpose: Inform/Discuss/Decide	Notes provided prior to meeting	Duration
1. Update on Biblical Generosity	Inform and update		15 min

Discussion: James provided LLB with updates on the following:

Debt-reduction appeal: James reported that \$113k has been committed toward debt reduction (\$112k contributed). Total current debt is \$7¼ million. Messaging includes: 1. Celebrate the ministry that debt has facilitated CL achieving and 2. Use debt reduction as a slingshot to advance giving and growth. He is now seeking commitments from LLB members prior to engaging the congregation with next phases of messaging.

Demographics: James summarized the results of the study done on demographics and giving. There were more than 100 first-time givers, which is noticeably higher than a typical year. Giving for November & December was up significantly – corresponding with implementation of 'Tithe efforts'. Online giving now represents a third of GF giving, down from Covid peak, but significantly greater than previous levels.

Policy revisions: James noted that policies related to giving and debt that were approved in 2021 are being implemented in practice.

Decision/Recommendations: No actions taken

2. Policy updates	Inform and update		15 min
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Discussion:

Shayla highlighted proposed revisions to the Bylaws. We will look to present a slate of revisions for approval at a future congregational meeting.

Pastor E. introduced a proposal to “Enable all non-pastoral calls to be brought forward by the DoM or the COO and approved by the LLB.” Currently, the congregation has to approve all calls, which is quite unwieldy given the number of non-pastoral called workers that the congregation employs, logistical barriers this imposes to hiring non-pastoral workers, and that non-pastoral called workers have limited doctrinal authority.

Decision/Recommendations:

- Prepare new/revised policies for final review by LLB and submittal for congregational approval.

3. COO report

Inform and update

Report provided

15 min

Discussion: Mike provided highlights of his written report:

Fellowship Hall: Update is complete.

Financial review: The agreed-upon procedures evaluation has been completed. Recommendations for minor improvements were received, but no significant concerns were identified.

Mike reported that the Harger Group is also assisting with financial practices as follow-up to the financial review, which is helping to fill the void created by Ken’s resignation.

Loans: Loan arrangements from other banks were obtained; the arrangement held with Pinnacle is currently the leading candidate.

Coffee conversations: These conversations with the COO and DoM were well attended (40). Questions generally were ‘Financial Town Hall-like’ from non-FTH attendees. LLB feedback included encouragement to hold such conversations in the future – possibly transition from holding FTH to these more open-topic events; include an LLB representative.

Decision/Recommendations:

- No action taken. Continue progress.

4. DoM report

Discuss

Report provided

15 min

Discussion: Pastor Eckelkamp highlighted obstacles to missional movement and a proposed Specific Ministry Program. Basically, this is internal training to develop pastors within our congregation. The reason presented behind implementing the program at CL is primarily to provide continuity of pastoral ministry within our [large] congregation. We have a wealth of pastoral experience at CL, which is underutilized in raising up pastors. He proposed including in budgets support for two trainees at \$10,000 annually each. LLB members provided a variety of questions, comments and suggestions; generally are in support of moving this forward.

Decision/Recommendations: No actions taken. Continue discussions.

5. Voter’s meeting

Follow-up and decide on plan.

15 min

Discussion:

The primary purpose is to act on a call of Joel Marquardt as Director of Middle School Ministries.

The meeting has been set for Monday, Feb 7, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary at Sumner Campus

Decision/Recommendations:

- Hold congregational meeting on February 7th to extend a call for Director of Middle School Ministries.

Adjourn / Closing prayer Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.