

LLB Meeting Minutes: March 31, 2025 (Approved)

Subject/Purpose: Regular monthly meeting

Date: Monday, March 31, 2025

Time: 5:30 PM

Location: MS 3

Online: AI recording

Participants:

LLB Members: ☒ indicates in attendance ☐ absent Name (LLB term) Office held if any

x Todd Loseke (1st 2026) Chair

x Kristy Plander (2nd 2026) Personnel Committee Chair

x David Mueller (1st 2026) Vice-Chair

x Shayla Reed (2nd 2025) Policy Committee Chair

x Tony Saeger (1st 2027) Secretary

x Ron Bender (2nd 2026)

x Kyle Kaldahl (1st 2027) Treasurer

x Lori Johnson (1st 2025) x Rick Stowell (2nd 2025)

x Mike Nichols (Appt., 2025)

CL staff: Michael Eckelkamp (Senior Executive Director of Ministry)

Josiah Jahnke (Director of Communication)

Guest: NA

Desired Outcomes of the meeting:

- Leaders have feedback and direction desired to advance highlighted ministry items.

Agenda items

Call to order: Todd opened the meeting at 5:34 p.m. Pastor Michael led with The Lord's Prayer and opening devotion – focus on forgive us our trespasses portion of the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes: Ron moved (Rick 2nd) to approve the minutes for the February 24 meeting. Motion approved without dissent.

Business Item:	Purpose: Inform/Discuss/Decide	Material provided prior to or at the meeting	Duration
Opening Business	Covering important up front business	NA	20 min

1. Congregational Survey Results Discussion

Josiah Jahnke presented the Congregational survey results (see attached detailed results). He reported that the overall themes pointed to improvements and that this is the most positive survey to date.

Highlights:

Things Going Well:

More respondents invited people to church within last six months

Family Ministries, Schools and Child Care highly rated

13.70% grown in respondents satisfied with overall leadership/strategic direction

Communication across the board was rated much higher than 2023, trending up over last four surveys

96.3% participate in Rows, 95.54% participate in Dots

Areas to improve:

43.70% never participate in circles, 38.17% never participate in Arrows

54.16% say we are effective in sharing the gospel with the unchurched/dechurched

61.83% volunteer internally, and 51.06% volunteer outside of CL

Vocal few are displeased with how we handle prayers within worship, requesting we return them to the screens

44.25% feel comfortable approaching church leadership with questions or concerns about financial matters

Discussion:

The presentation was well received, and Josiah was commended on his work on the survey and presenting the results

While the same question was not asked year over year, the feeling is that financial communication has vastly improved over the past 3-4 years

It was pointed out that the survey results are not easily found on the website

Ministry report	Provide update		15 min
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1. Yankee Hill Call Committee

Pastor reported that he, along with YH leadership will be holding a Zoom meeting with one of the two candidates on 01 April and the other candidate on 02 April. He will cover 10 questions that need to be asked. Pastor Michael will meet with each candidate following the Zoom meetings. Following that meeting, Pastor will determine who will return. The desire is for one candidate to return.

Discussion – the desire is for the final candidate to meet with the LLB prior to finalizing the Call process.

2. Eldership Board

Pastors Dirk Reek and Jim Haynes will continue to serve in an advisory capacity for at least six months. Carl Schoettlin will also serve on that board. This team will develop a meeting schedule and regular agenda. A report will be provided every quarter or so

3. Monday night service – The decision has been made to discontinue the Monday night services. April 07 will be the final service.

Discussion – two individuals expressed disappointment that the church would not continue the services. Arrangements have been made to deliver communion to these individuals, and they have been encouraged to view services online. Pastor commended Pastor Potts for leading this effort.

4. Strategic Plan – Pastor Michael has budgeted \$5K for an outside expert to develop a strategic plan. This plan is expected to cover the 3–5-year range.

a. Pastor is in the process of securing bids and gathering other information for this process.

b. More information on the desired outcomes will be available at the April meeting. It is expected this will help shape the plan.

5. Miscellaneous Activities

a. Pastor will be leading the Unicameral prayer

b. He will continue to teach Pickleball for Southeast Community College

c. Rotary Club will have in-club celebrations for Memorial Day.			
Recommendation: Continue efforts.			
Old Business			0 min
No old business discussed to allow for Policy review			
Decision: Allow use of an AI tool to help capture LLB meeting discussion and foster timely minutes.			
New Business			60 min
<p>1. Policy manual review</p> <p>Two months of policy review sections were covered in the meeting. Discussion included: Page 9 LLB approval of expenditures over the budget is currently set at \$10,000. It was suggested that perhaps this be increased to \$25,000. Final decision was to consult with James on frequency this happens, and the \$10,000 threshold will remain for now.</p> <p>LLB self-review – discussion on when this would be appropriate. The consensus was to conduct this in December after the Congregational meeting.</p> <p>Lay Eldership committee – this is clearly mentioned in the bylaws but is not covered in the policy. Motion was made and seconded to add this committee to the policy. Motion passed without dissent.</p> <p>Section J Responsibilities to the Congregation – It was brought up that the wording here is too specific on how the LLB is to solicit input each calendar year on the appropriateness of the desired outcomes. The question was posed to make this section more general to fit the situation as we grow and evolve. David suggested that the reason for the specific wording was derived from within policy governance. Consensus was to leave this section as currently written.</p> <p>LLB agenda structure – Shayla proposed a motion under Section K, subsection 3 (i), paragraph to read “LLB shall establish an agenda structure and keep a template in the appendix.” David 2nd. Approved without dissent.</p> <p>Definitions – There is no current definition for the LLB Executive Committee. Decision was made to take definition from page 13 and place between definition D and E.</p> <p>Executive committee meeting – The policy currently states that Executive committee members shall not miss any significant part of two meetings. This is to be changed to read regularly attend its meetings. Shayla proposed the motion to change the wording to read “regularly attend its meetings “ Tony 2nd. Motion approved without dissent.</p>			
Reports	Update		10 min
<p>Financial: Kyle reported that the FOC had a good meeting with childcare staff. Discussed many challenges that come with rapid growth in childcare. February financials are not yet complete, Kyle to distribute when ready. February General Fund giving is 24% under budget. May need to take</p>			

action if this trend continues. March does appear to be on track as we are 75% of the budget prior to 30 March. Overall church and school are in the black \$95K for the year.

Nominating: No report

Personnel: No report

Policy: See policy discussion above.

Recommendation: NA

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

LLB Meeting Agreements and Assignments: March 2025

Who: Lead role	What: Assignment	When: By
Shayla	Provide editable versions of Policy Manuals	Complete