

# CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

Lancaster Evangelical Free Church

Sunday, November 8th, 2020 at 6:30pm

Meeting Location: LEFC & Livestream

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Fred Eberly, Elder Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and opened in prayer.

**Minutes** – The minutes from the June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Congregational meeting were approved as submitted, without objection.

**Confirmation of New Members** – presented by elder Scot Galan

**The following candidates were voted in as new members to LEFC:**

- Bethany Bucalo, Jon & Lindsay Clark, Gene Dugger, Nathan & Charity Engelhardt, Danielle Gehman, Leah Hagenbuch, Dan & Jerilyn Martin, Cindy Martzall, Andrea Napoleonis, Sharon Neal, Frank & Susan Owsiany, Hal & Sharon Pettegrew, Shawn & Beth Zehr.

***All candidates were approved by ballot vote, and we read the Membership Commitment together.***

**New Missionary Introduction** – Nicholas Todd, Minister of Mobilization, introduced the Geesey's who shared their vision with LEFC for future missions.

**Financial Update** - presented by elder/treasurer Tyler Ranck

Tyler shared that three years ago in November 2017, a kick off and launch for Creating Space Expecting Harvest was launched with a projected budget of 12.5 million dollars. Much prayer went into this proposal. Although material cost increased, unplanned blasting cost to remove rock was needed, however, the total cost of the project was \$12,490,765 which was under budget.

LEFC's long term mortgage will be around \$6,000,000 depending on final giving once the campaign closes.

The General fund giving on the average has been on track for the year. He thanked the LEFC staff for wise spending during this time and thanked the congregation for their faithful giving this year.

Tyler shared the following details below which followed by a motion from the LEFC Elder board:

- The Finance Advisory Council has reviewed our current cash position and has established a cash reserve amount for stability during the remainder of this fiscal year.
- However, our preference is to avoid holding a higher cash balance than necessary since we are paying interest on our long-term debt.
- Therefore, our recommendation is to transfer all cash in excess of our established reserve to pay down the principal on our mortgage, which we estimate could save over \$20,000 per year.
- As an extra precaution during this time of uncertainty, we need to ensure that we have access to a safety net of cash if there is an unforeseen event that would result in a significant decline in giving.
- While we do not intend to utilize it, we would like to establish a line of credit with a lender to give us a fallback option and require less cash reserves.

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**Motion:** – To pursue the establishment of a line of credit with a lender as a precautionary measure for up to \$500,000.

**The motion was made and the congregation approved the motion with over 99% voting yes.**

## **Funding the Vision – Eric Wenger**

A video was shared by Eric explaining the journey of this project. Currently LEFC is at 6.1 million dollars towards the goal of 6.5 million. A group of anonymous donors are matching all giving dollar for dollar up to \$250,000 beyond the original pledges that were made. The final announcement of the total amount given will be shared on Jan 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

## **Blessings Fund**

A team was created and did a prayer walk through the community which eventually resulted in hand delivered checks to over 50 different businesses in our community. Julie Hurst shared many responses that she received from the gifts that were given from LEFC. She was impacted by the responses she received and was glad to be a part of this opportunity to encourage our community.

Tony invited Dema and Anna Kohen to share their future as they were moving on from LEFC to continue their work in children's ministry. They shared that they have been real blessed to call LEFC their home and will continue to pray for the church and plan on keeping in touch as they embark on their new journey.

## **Closing Comments: Tony Hunt**

Tony shared that the spirit is good. Our King is not here on earth. We don't bend the knee to an earthly leader, we bend the knee to our Father in heaven. He challenged everyone to stay focused on the Gospel and continue to shine the light as we fix our eyes on Jesus.

The meeting was closed in prayer by Cory Mitchell. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Art Horn  
Elder Secretary