

Blackford, M. Bret

From: M Bret Blackford <bret_blackford@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 1, 2022 1:25 PM
To: steve.awtrey@gmail.com; donaldfitzgerald@att.net; keaton.jones@sbcglobal.net; alokunade@wustl.edu; bstevens@shandselbert.com; srainey6@yahoo.com; dave-n-amy-weiler@juno.com; 'Louis West'; steve@rotolite-stl.com; Lane Hamm
Cc: 'Jeff Kryder'; Blackford, M. Bret; Bret Blackford
Subject: v2: MX Youth Minister: 06.20.2022 MX Elder Mtg Notes
Attachments: 06.27.2022-SteveHaupt-YM.pdf

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To clarify - I am not giving an opinion on how we should proceed (JP or someone else) but trying to keep the issues in front of so we make the best decisions that maximize results for MX in both areas.

---- Bret

On Friday, July 1, 2022 at 01:14:33 PM CDT, M Bret Blackford <bret_blackford@yahoo.com> wrote:

All,

It seems we have a few options on the open Youth Minister search:

1. interview/hire Jeremy Picker
2. interview/hire Nathan Strickland
3. interview/hire Jamey Grimsley
4. wait (Jeremy interim YM)

It is great to have these options but as we look at the above we also need to consider the two issues we have to address:

1. we have an open Youth Minister position - a ministry that is central to the vision of MX
2. we need to determine what role Jeremy Picker will play at MX
 1. budget limitations (see attached from Steve Haupt)

So, if we hire Jeremy (option 1) we address both of the above issues. Any other option and we still need to address Jeremy's role. Just want to keep this in front of everyone. We need to solve both these issues in a way that maximizes utility to MX.

---- Bret

On Monday, June 27, 2022 at 12:39:29 PM CDT, **Lane Hamm** <lane_hamm@yahoo.com> wrote:

I spoke with Jeremy on Thursday evening and he expressed that he would very willing to continue to operate in the role on an interim basis with some thoughts about taking it on long-term. I told him that given our lack of candidates and our need to work out our priorities and then staffing needs, that having him remain in this role for the time being could work well. It would provide him with a clearly defined role and allow us the time to determine our staffing needs as a congregation.

Thanks,
Lane
lane_hamm@yahoo.com
314-269-4049

On Monday, June 27, 2022, 10:32:26 AM CDT, **steve@rotolite-stl.com** <steve@rotolite-stl.com> wrote:

Hi Guys,

Attached please find my thoughts on the youth minister search. From the feedback I'm getting from my grandkids, he's doing a great job. Hate to spend a lot of time and money searching for someone who may not be as qualified, knowledgeable, well liked, and experienced as Jeremy.

Blessings,

Steve

From: M Bret Blackford <bret_blackford@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 2:25 PM
To: steve.awtrey@gmail.com; bret_blackford@yahoo.com; donaldfitzgerald@att.net; lane_hamm@yahoo.com; steve@rotolite-stl.com; keaton.jones@sbcglobal.net; alokunade@wustl.edu; bstevens@shandselbert.com; srainey6@yahoo.com; dave-n-amy-weiler@juno.com; Louis West <louiswest920@yahoo.com>
Cc: Jeff Kryder <jkryder@mcknightcrossings.org>; Bret Blackford <bret_blackford@yahoo.com>
Subject: 06.20.2022 MX Elder Mtg Notes

All,

Attached are my notes from the meeting last night. Respond if I have missed any key discussion items.

--- Bret

email send to MX elders on 6/20/2022

Youth Minister Thoughts

With very few candidates applying for the job as youth minister, I would be in favor of offering the job to Jeremy on a 2 year "contingency" agreement to assess his performance. I know my grandkids like him, and I believe most of the other kids do as well. He also has a vested interest in this ministry since his kids will be members of the youth group for the next 7 years.

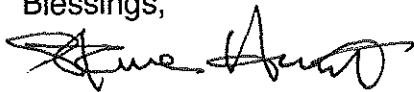
Although he has said nothing to me, I have a feeling the reason he has not officially applied for this position, is that he is afraid that some members would be against him serving in this role that he had before. He has short comings like we all do, but I firmly believe he has matured quite a bit over the past several years; and would do a much better job than someone new who doesn't know the kids. I also think that Laura would be more motivated and available to be involved with the kids.

Considering the current state of our contributions, I also don't see how we could afford to hire a new youth minister, keep Jeremy, add our new children's minister, and prepare to add a replacement minister for Jeff. Jeremy is already in our budget and also serves as our praise team leader; which in my opinion he is doing a good job.

Jeremy offers some stability to our congregation in a climate of change that we are going through in adding the new kids minister and getting ready to transition from Jeff. If we were to hire a new youth minister and fire Jeremy, we would lose yet another young family with 3 active kids in the youth group; and I'm afraid other families would follow him out the door such as Quain and Melissa with their 2 kids. We'd then need to hire a praise team leader and find new singers for the praise team.

I've been thinking about this for awhile, and considering the circumstances, I believe Jeremy would do the best job as the new youth minister if we'd giving him a fighting chance. Thanks.

Blessings,



Steve Haupt