

MX Elder Mtg

March 6, 2023 mtg notes

Attendees:

Steve Walker, Dave Weiler (chair), Jeff Kryder, Keaton Jones, Steve Awtrey, Bret Blackford

Next Meeting:

March 14 – special meeting with Carson Reed (<https://acu.edu/faculty/carson-reed/>)

April 3 – Dave Weiler chair

1) Potter and Clay example from Jeremiah 18:1-6

This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ² "Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you my message." ³ So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. ⁴ But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him.

⁵ Then the word of the LORD came to me. ⁶ He said, "Can I not do with you, Israel, as this potter does?" declares the LORD. "Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel."

2) People updates – various

Audrey Dolan opened and discussed her vision for a clothing pantry.
This will be given consideration. – ref **Exhibit E**

3) Update from Jeremiah on Children's Ministry

Curriculum going well. Steve Haupt doing a great job teaching.
Some concern with two families – Willis and Tull

4) Update from Nathan on Youth Group

Gospel Project and "Christ Connection"- making Jesus the main thread.

(Jeremiah and Nathan dismissed)

5) Update from Jeremy on Sabbatical and future plans

Jeremy appreciated the sabbatical. A few statements from his discussion of past several weeks ...

"concerned about my health in ministry (pre-sabbatical)" "God called me away from McKnight" "God calling you out of things is just as important as God calling into things."

(Jeremy dismissed)

6). Jeff - Recommendations on Jeremy's duties (non-worship) for the remainder of his time at MX – ref **Exhibit A**

7). Jeff - Handout and thoughts on Worship Minister gaps. We'll discuss how they might be filled. – ref **Exhibit B**

8). Jeff - thoughts about a woman preaching and a woman worship leader. With gaps to be filled, let's evaluate where we are.

- Machalie Brown preached on December 27, 2021
The Gift of God (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C4KgGgTeuhw>)

Bret indicated he could manage a woman worship leader but not comfortable with a woman preacher.

Worship: All agree this is important. Is now very important to young professionals. There is agreement that worship should be given thought and focus and not taken lightly. We are not sure if we need a polished worship experience, but realize the singing is important.

9). Jeff - thoughts on a Pastoral Team concept – ref **Exhibit C**

10) Jeff - Plans for 2nd Elder's meeting each month. For March we will meet on Tuesday 3/14 with Carson Reed at 7pm. Therefore, we won't be meeting the third Monday of March – ref **Exhibit D**

Topics: a) What is driving churches; b) Jeff Kryder transitioning in a year or two.

11). Jeff - Update on Elizabeth's workload.

Admin Elders to determine of the many many things that Elizabeth does, which are most important. Which 5-things does Elizabeth need to focus on, and the others can wait.

12). Jeff - Update on Dolores's retirement celebration April 2

13). Jeff - Update on upcoming class schedule.

Single class on 4th floor. Refresher on Baptism.

Note: Jeff Kryder will be out March 19 & 26. Matt Bardewell and Steve Walker will fill in on these Sundays.

Jeremy Items (March - May)

- 1. Worship Planning through June**
- 2. Church Center App**
 - a. Log-in using QR Code
 - b. New Here? (Guest information and form)
 - c. Bulletin
 - d. Order of Worship
 - e. Giving
 - f. Prayer Requests
- 3. Visitor Welcome Desk Materials**
- 4. New Member Packets & Process**
- 5. Planning Center Training for *Staff***
- 6. Jeremy's Computer**
- 7. Tech Training (Pro-presenter, Streaming, etc.)**
- 8. New Members - Shelly**

WORSHIP MINISTER

(Part-time March 2023)

Worship Planning, Coordination, and Leadership - *Delight in God*

- **Regularly Meet** with Senior Minister to help plan the direction and details of each Sunday worship assembly and other occasional times of worship.
- **Lead Worshipper** on Sunday mornings, and other occasions, as needed. Able to lead both acapella and instrumental worship.
 - o Able to passionately lead the Praise Team and the congregation into the throne room of the Holy God
- **Develop Worship Team** - Recruit and develop those participating on the Worship Team through rehearsals, teaching music, teaching new songs, blending voices, and instruments, to enable an encounter with God and Christ in corporate worship.
- **Planning and Administration of Order of Worship**
 - o Actively manage coordination, planning, and schedules of worship leaders, praise team singers, and instrumentalists, for each worship time.
 - o Coordinate worship participants for all aspects of worship (Announcements, Prayers, Communion Thoughts, Scripture Readers, etc.)
 - o Responsible for readiness of all details and personnel for practices and times of worship, including ProPresenter preparation, sound and mic set-up, and live-stream readiness.

Pastoral Team

Mar 2023

The purpose of this team is to assist the Elders and staff with pastoral ministry.

Background:

- The need for a team like this in our churches has likely always existed. However, the need has become more pressing based upon several factors:
- Post-Covid people are staying home more. Their contact with the church and the Shepherds has been reduced.
- The Elders have had an abundance of challenges, not necessarily more important tasks, but often more urgent ones to attend to. For instance, staffing issues have been very demanding for more than a year.
- In lieu of additional elders, this team can do aspects of the Shepherd's role without all the other administrative meetings.

Duties:

- Visiting those who are having trouble getting out.
- Making hospital visits.
- Calling, texting, and / or visiting those who have disengaged from church life.
- Offering assistance with services like transportation, running to the drugstore, or organizing a meal.

Guidelines:

- This team will have one male and one female leader who will coordinate the pasturing and reporting to the elders.
- This team will be publicly commissioned and prayed over by the congregation.
- This commitment will be for 2- years.
- Regular (Bi-monthly) reporting at the 2nd Elder's meeting of the month.

Initial Team Members to Be Invited:

- Kay Heintz
- Collins Corder
- Marion Earnhart
- Retta Sutterfield
- Ben Mehringer
- Alec Hill
- Jim Griffith

**Elder Meeting with Ministry Leaders
(2nd Meeting of the Month)
March 2023**

Time: Elders will meet on the 2nd meeting per month with Ministry Leaders.

Organizer: Jeff K. to organize this meeting.

Ministry Reports: Each meeting will include at least two Ministry reports. The Pastoral Team will report as one of the two reports every other meeting.

1. **Pastoral Team** - tbd
2. **Food Pantry** - Barb
3. **Connect Groups** - Dale
4. **Fellowship** - Kari
5. **Sunday Tech Team**
6. **Greeters** - Fredy
7. **ACTS** - Katie
8. **Missions** -Jeff McGlawn
9. **Office** - Elizabeth
10. **College Outreach** - Jayson and Adam
11. **Young Adults** - Carrie, Nathan, and Nathaniel
12. **Seniors / Faith in Action (FIA)** – starting in April
13. **Connect Group Leaders** (Steve Jones, Cas and Matthew, Dale and Alec, etc.)
14. **Faith Formation** - Betty
15. **Safety**-Jerry Mickey
16. **Unity in Diversity**- West and Mayberry

Approach: The meeting will include a report by the Ministry Leader, feedback, Q &A, and prayer from the Shepherds

Audrie Dolan – Clothing Pantry

From: M Bret Blackford (bret_blackford@yahoo.com)

To: mxelders@mcknightcrossings.org; jkryder@mcknightcrossings.org; keaton.jones@sbcglobal.net

Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 07:33 AM CST

Re: **Audrie Dolan – Clothing Pantry**

At the March 6, 2023 elder meeting Audrie presented a clothing ministry she would like to start at the McKnight building. Her vision is to be able to provide shoes and clothing, and eventually bedding/linens, to individuals on the same schedule that the food pantry (<https://www.mxchurch.org/christians-who-carefood-pantry>) is open. Audrie would like room to store 12 large totes of clothes and possibly wants a clothing drop-box for the parking lot. Audrie also indicated she has discussed her plans with Barb Eickele, who is on-board with the project.

There was some discussion that this may be an overly ambitious plan, and perhaps we should start with a focus on children's clothes, or baby needs. Others mentioned we should find a way to gauge the need for a clothing pantry in our area.

Bret mentioned that other ministries are serving this need and perhaps it is best to partner with them instead of trying to build another competing ministry. MX has relationships with the Webster-Rockhill Ministries (<https://www.wrhm.org/>) as well as Churches on the Street (<https://www.churchesonthestreets.com/>). There is also a Goodwill less than a mile away.

Although I do not consider this a ministry that MX should start, I very much want to honor Audrie's heart and desire to help others. My suggestion is that we channel this energy and passion into a way that MX can partner with other ministries currently working in this space.

---- Bret

ps

I wanted to send this out separate from the meeting notes so we can discuss independent from the other agenda items. Please, add your thoughts and comments to this discussion thread.

Special Days – Lent, Easter, Christmas, etc.

There was some time taken at the March 6, 2023 Elder meeting to discuss the appropriateness of recognizing specific holidays during Sunday worship, holidays like - Lent, Easter, Advent, Christmas, etc.

The concern seems to be that pagan holidays have been co-opted as Christian religious festivals. That our Sundays may end up with trappings of Santa Claus and trees, or Easter bunnies and chocolate, and miss the central themes of the gospel. Although this is a valid concern, and can be seen in several religious organizations, it does not appear to be a problem at McKnight Crossings (MX). Christ has always been central to our worship, especially on those Sunday's where we celebrate and remember the birth and death/resurrection of our Lord.

It was shared that the old and New Testament are filled with examples of special days and tokens of remembrances (piles of stones, festival of booths, Passover, etc. & etc.).

A couple conflicting Bible verses:

Galatians 4:9-10

But now that you know God—or rather are known by God—how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable forces^a? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again? You are observing special days and months and seasons and years!

Colossians 2:16-17

Therefore, do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.