

## Elders Memorandum

June 12, 2024

Guys,

I wanted to document a few items for possible discussion at the next elder’s meeting, Monday June 17. I am sending this only to the elders and Jeff Kryder due to some of the content.

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#### I. Feedback on Ethan Laster

After worship and class on Sunday June 2, I sought feedback from several individuals. I talked with the following, who all felt positive about Ethan:

Robyn Oestreich, Alec Hill, Steve Haupt, Jerry Mickey, Glenn & Janice Devania, Joyce Holmes, Betty Vaughn

Ron Milligan and JT Taylor like Ethan but thought he talked too fast and waved his hands too much.

#### II. June 2 Coffee Meeting with Eric McPherson

Summary:

Eric likes Ethan Laster but is concerned he will get ground into dust if we don't put up some guard rails.

- limit how often he preaches (no more than 3x in a row or similar)
- provide support in gap areas - administrative, staff management, etc.
- it would be ideal/great if Jeff Kryder could mentor Ethan.

#### Eldership

- Eric appreciates our elders but wants to know if we should have a 2-year rotation or similar.
- New elders in training - concerned for Ross Brown. He has young kids which require his energy and attention. Eric thinks Ross has elder potential, but timing might not be right.

Eric asks if we are fully thinking through some of our special events. Example is Easter Sunday. We had several visitors who just showed up and neither the visitors nor those on the Safety Team or others of MX in the lobby knew what to do. Are we being intentional with our events to maximize long-term contact with any visitors?

### III. Comments from Ron Milligan

On June 2, Ron Milligan talked with Bret (and I believe Dave Weiler) and mentioned that he did not like that the song leader [Carrie Strickland] stood further up front than the other members of the Praise Team. Ron would prefer all members of the Praise Team stay in a line so as not to have any stand out.

Bret's Interpretation – I believe Ron does not want to give the impression that a woman is leading the singing. Although I am sympathetic to Ron's position, I do not feel any changes should be made. The leadership have decided that women can be worship leaders and we should support this decision.

### IV. Comments re Ministry Leaders

A member talked to me about concerns that some of our Ministry Leaders may not be believing members. The individual was specifically talking about Brian Hill.

Bret's thoughts – I agree that Brian Hill would not be a candidate as a Deacon due to his unorthodox position on faith. However, I do not have a problem with those serving in areas not associated with our sacerdotal duties. Examples would be facilities manager, accountant or bookkeeper, IT, or AV.