

**Attendance:**

Phil Anderson, Duane Otey, Roger Hanggi, Malcolm Tyree, Rick Winford  
Guests: Dick Johns, Keith Smelser

We opened with prayer for about 30 minutes.

**Item 1: Shepherding within the Congregation.**

Lee & Angie Hammond have moved to Sherman and will move to another fellowship; we plan to recognize them and their years of service, perhaps May 8

We discussed any additional families that have indicated they may be leaving. Bob and Bev Flach have embarked on their Appalachian Trail adventure and will be gone for 8-12 months.

We agreed that we must show a greater level of appreciation for those in our care.

We agreed that we need to mentor new ministry leaders better, with more support and assistance.

**Item 2: Pastors' reports**

Pastor Phil: ENCORE visited CitySquare; ENCORE is evaluating how to participate with Food on the Move this summer, a program sponsored by AmeriCorps.

Pastor Malcolm: there's a lot going on in the body with good energy and positive outlook. "Good Days Ahead." The reunion was a good example of building on the success of the past and focusing on all the positives for the future. We still need to find ways to better integrate New Life and Vida sides of the congregation.

**Item 3: Discussion of "Elder/Deacon Orientation Guide"**

Good summary, very much the same information in the books we have read on the subject. Highlights the importance of getting Deacons involved in our congregation.

**Item 4: Financial Summary (Dick Johns)**

We are about 103% of our budget giving and our Faith Promise. We have 8 people signed up for online giving. Dick reported that our spending is about \$14,000 over budget, but there may be some miscalculations there. Dick and Malcolm will review. The new financial software is working well, except the tellers still can't use it on Sunday morning; we expect the faster internet connection will solve it. We should consolidate all regular (monthly, quarterly) expenses to direct ACH drafts instead of the credit card.

**Item 5: By-Laws**

Each Elder will review the draft submitted by the by-laws team in January 2016 and make comments, suggested revisions, and corrections. In the May Elders' meeting we will take time to discuss and review. We will have a formal discussion and approval of the by-laws by the Elders in the June 2016 meeting. We will then schedule an all-church family business meeting to vote on the new by-laws. This meeting will probably be scheduled in July or August 2016.

9:00pm Adjourn. Moved by RW, second by RH, passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Winford, Secretary

First Church of God, d/b/a New Life Bible Fellowship & Vida Abundante

13 April 2016