



**West Shore Evangelical Free Church
Congregational Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2022
6:00 PM**

Opening:

Worship in song led by George Romanacce

Opening Prayer:

George Romanacce

Call to Order:

by John Nesbitt, Chairman of the Elder Board, 6:08 P.M.

Quorum:

A quorum was affirmed by Joel Gordon

New Members / John Nesbitt

The following were presented and recommended to the Congregation by the Elder Board for membership. John Nesbitt invited all new members to introduce themselves and give a brief testimony as to their decision to become a member of West Shore. John shared briefly on the meaning of commitment to all new and current members:

Clayton Breen-Pittala
Hannah Dawson
Shirlene Farris
Adam Gante
Amanda Gante
David Gray
Drew Gugliuzza
Krista Gugliuzza

Anike Heller
Jenna Malingowski
Joe Masshardt
Stacy Masshardt
Shannon Mellon
Janelle Myers
Jethro Nolt
Natalie Nolt

Cindy Parker
Mike Parker
Dean Plante
Linda Plante
Emily Randolph
Justin Randolph
Emily Tuschak
Joel Tuschak
Olivia Ward

Motion: *That the above candidates be approved for membership
(Jim Gustafson / Jeremy Teppig 2nd)*

Action: Approved by unanimous hand vote

Church Life Updates / Trent Thompson

Trent introduced several speakers who spoke on what God is doing in and through our church.



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Awesome Adventure Children's Ministry / Aarne Stefanon

Aarne shared about the joy of teaching the Quest Class to fifth and sixth grade students in Awesome Adventure. The themes of this class include: What is Truth? What Should I Worship? How Does Life Begin? How Can I Tell Right from Wrong?

Community Engagement / Ryan Keith

Ryan emphasized that together our church, along with other churches, can make a difference in our community.

Our Community Resource Center (CRC) was highlighted for the work being done in economically distressed areas of our community. We have supplied up to forty tutors to students living in these areas, and Mechanicsburg School District has reported 80 per cent of those students have made academic progress. ESL (English as Second Language) classes have also begun at the CRC. Finally, the CRC has allowed our church to make connections with our local library and the United Way.

The Foster Care Initiative remains strong at our church. More than thirty families have participated in providing foster care and a few hundred people have been involved in some aspect of this ministry. Other churches are now following our lead in establishing foster care initiatives in their congregations.

Ryan challenged our church to engage our neighbors by stretching ourselves and relying on God. Two current areas of need include care communities for foster families and substitute teachers for local school districts.

Marriage Ministry / Trent Thompson reporting for Nate Winters

Trent advised the Marriage Ministry is providing three phases of ministry including: Prepare for engaged couples, Enrich Seminars for married couples, and Restore for those experiencing marital difficulties.

State of the Church / Trent Thompson

Trent shared that we are turning the corner after coming through a hard season. Vision has been waning, as much time was spent on reacting to various concerns. Our most recent sermon series reminds us that justice and the proclamation of the Gospel go together.

He asked the question, "What does God have for us in the future?" In response, Trent highlighted evangelism and neighboring. He reminded the congregation that coming out of winter leads to more opportunities to openly communicate with neighbors. He shared the story of Zacchaeus from Luke 19, emphasizing how Jesus not only directed his attention to



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Zacchaeus, but desired to visit in his home, illustrating how the Son of man came to seek and save the lost.

Trent challenged our congregation to move in a proactive direction towards neighboring for the harvest is ripe. His hope is that we would pray for specific lost people in our lives, and we would see one hundred people added to our church, not through church transfers, but through conversions.

In closing, Trent shared that being part of a church family gives us the privilege to dream together and to do God's work together.

Closing Prayer:

Trent Thompson

Adjourned: 7:08 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joel Gordon, Secretary