

May 7, 2023 – Business meeting

Approximately 400 people in attendance

1. Pastor Jared opened the meeting with prayer after reading Psalm 90:17 – “May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us, and establish the work of our hands!”
2. As Moderator, Pastor Jared called the Business Meeting to order, and stated the first order of business was to receive 22 new members. These 22 people were identified and welcomed to the front of the church. A motion was made by Dr. Blake, seconded by Reji Puthenveetil, to receive these individuals as members. Motion unanimously approved.
3. Will Warren gave a brief update on the gym and sanctuary renovations – we are currently ahead of schedule and on budget with the gym renovation. We did elect to expand the scope and put new stair treads and paint the rear stairwells in the gym, but even with this increased scope we are within the approved budget amount. The sanctuary renovation is still scheduled to commence the week after Vacation Bible School – the week of June 19th.
4. Paul Bunch, Chairman of the Constitution Committee, introduced the other members of the Constitution Committee (Mike Pleasant, Walk Haskins, Chuck Thompson, Tracy Crisp and Dick Wilkinson) stated the Committee has met numerous times and solicited the input of legal counsel, and the Committee is proud to present a Draft Constitution for membership review that will help protect the Church and provide a framework for future growth. Paul walked through a PowerPoint presentation that addressed the importance of the Constitution and Bylaws; why the Bay Leaf Constitution needed to be updated; and outlined significant changes. Handouts distributed to the membership included a cover letter from the Committee; an Overview of Proposed Constitution Updates; and Questions and Answers. A website address was presented where members can view the existing Constitution and the proposed Draft Constitution where changes are highlighted.

Paul explained this is the beginning of a 90-day process to update our existing Constitution, and this process will culminate in a Sunday morning vote on September 10th. We will have two townhall meetings where members can ask questions on July 12th and July 16th. Questions may also be presented electronically to bylaws@bayleaf.org. All of the handouts and links will be distributed to the entire membership via email on Monday, May 8, 2023. Since the Draft Constitution is being presented to membership tonight, questions will be deferred until the townhall meetings to allow people time to read the documents.

5. Pastor Jared then discussed a few staff changes – Kristen Wofford has stepped down from her Women’s’ Ministry role to spend more time with her family. Amy Puthenveetil will move into this role effective September 1st. After 25 years of service, Christina Schooley has resigned as an Administrative Assistant to assume a position with Kimberly Horne.
6. Being no further business, Pastor Jared closed the meeting in prayer.