

## Overview of the November 8<sup>th</sup> Elders' Meeting

**FINANCES** - With the leaving of the pastor and a couple of other families this year, the giving is slightly less than expected at this time. We are still within the budget for the year but have held off on any new spending through the end of the year. Repair and some upgrades are continuing as provided in the budget and through material donations.

**WORSHIP PLANS** – Pat plans to decorate the church with an Advent theme. He has candles and decoration to provide a Christmas atmosphere. He is planning a decoration making and pizza party. Then the decorations will go up along with a JOY display.

**CHRISTMAS SERVICE** – We will have a Christmas Eve service. At present we are considering 6 PM worship service with a reading of the Birth of Jesus (Christmas Story). On Christmas day there will be no formal service. However, Steve will open the church from 9 AM until Noon for a walk in communion. Come at any time during those hours to quietly pray and serve your family communion.

**NEW YEARS SERVICE** – We would like to have a breakfast at the church before the service. This has been a tradition that we would like to keep if we can get volunteers to help.

**FOCUS** – As we continue to seek the Lord about the Focus (Function) of the Ridge a word was given that we “not do more but do different.” We take this to mean, not to add new ministries or expand ministries at this time. But to do what we are presently doing with excellence. Better communication, better leadership, better visibility of each ministry, better ways of bringing ministries together. Working together for a common goal within the Ridge. The Spiritual direction and pillars we have been building upon will not change. We will, however, begin focusing attention on areas that have become weak. The Bible tells us the believers gathered together and, “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” (Acts 2:42) We can work toward increasing in these areas through Small Groups. This is where strong fellowships are made. This has always been the strength of the Ridge. We want to promote fellowship, eating together, reading Gods Word and praying intimately together through small groups. This will also pour out into all the Ridge ministries.

MINISTRY LEADERS – we want to meet with each of the ministry leaders to review their area of ministry and find ways to excite the congregation to become involved. Brainstorm on ways to share with other ministries so that we are one body. We need to discuss needs and possible ways the elders and others can assist those ministries.

RESTROOMS – We are repairing the restrooms in the CE/Fellowship area. Framing has begun and toilets are being removed, cleaned and reinstalled. Next we will add drywall and paint. Then door knobs will be added so that the rooms will be available for individual use.

CLASSROOMS – The office in the CE section will be converted to a small class or meeting room. The area behind the curtains (bar) is being prepared for additional meeting use. We are getting information from Overhead Doors about selling the rollup doors in the children's classrooms so we can install regular doors.

VISITING PASTORS – Most of the Sunday dates, through the end of the year, have been filled. We will try to announce upcoming speakers in the church service and in flocknotes. Mike Rowland will be preaching Sunday November 20<sup>th</sup>.

MEETINGS – The elders meet monthly and welcome any church members to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month. Call for location. We will also continue meet weekly to discuss possible guest speakers.

PERSONAL – Individuals with personal issues were also discussed confidentially.