

**ROLLING HILLS COVENANT CHURCH**  
**Elder Council – Meeting Minutes**  
**November 18, 2019 (Approved XX/XX/19)**

**MEETING ATTENDANCE**

Name	Position	Present	Absent
Mike Cochrane	Chairman	X	
Anthony Galante	Vice Chairman	X	
Shawn Hurley	Executive Preaching Pastor	X	
Clyde LaGue	Elder – Children’s Commission	X	
Jerry Rilling	Elder – Congregational Care	X	
Gene Chou	Elder – Connect & Equip Commission	X	
Tom Miller	Elder – Finance & Property Commission	X	
Craig Knickerbocker	Elder – Global Outreach Commission	X	
Mike DiLustro	Elder – Life Group Commission		X
Hoon Dokko	Elder – Local Outreach Commission	X	
Terry Wheeler	Elder – Personnel Commission	X	
Richard Smith	Elder – Stewardship Commission	X	
Rod Lenders	Elder – Student Commission	X(via video phone)	
Ben Eroen	Elder – Worship Arts Commission	X	
Steve Bunyard	Associate Pastor – Outreach	X	
Lloyd Gilbert	Associate Pastor – Student Ministries	X	
Garrick Hanger	Associate Pastor – Adult Ministries		X
Bob Cubillos	Business Administrator	X	
Jane Wallin	Secretary	X	

At 7:06 PM, Chairman Mike opened the meeting with prayer.  
 Having been extended an open invitation to the ECMs, Phil Hodges attended this ECM.

**DEVOTIONAL – PSALM 119:137-144**

Gene delivered the devotional on this section of Psalm 119. He began with the last verse as it is the main focus of the stanza – (v.144) *Your testimonies are righteous, give me understanding that I may live* - David reminds us to love God’s words and righteousness, and that it provides guidance to life. Verse 137, in which the psalmist states that God’s laws are right, brought to mind 2 Timothy 3:16 – “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness...” Here we see God’s laws connected with His righteousness. The theme continues in v. 142 – “Your righteousness is everlasting and Your law is true.” Verses 138 and 140 remind us that God fulfills all His promises. The Lord has revealed who He is through all of His goodness and faithful promises. God’s word is righteous, and cannot be impeached; it is faithful, and cannot be questioned; it is true from the beginning, and it will be true unto the end. His promises have tested true over time. In verses 139, 141, and 143, the psalmist has overwhelming anger toward those who do not have regard for God’s Word. (Are we angered by the ungodliness of man?) Nevertheless, God’s Word keeps the psalmist from lashing out and, instead, gives him delight. We, too, can find joy in the midst of trouble and God Word gives us strength to endure.

**ELDER PRAYERS**

The elders prayed for one another, for the needs of those on the council, for needs of those in the congregation, and for the church in general.

**MINUTES**

The minutes from the 11/04/2019 meeting were approved by acclamation.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA & ADOPTION OF AGENDA ITEMS**

Three additions were made to the agenda: Commissioning of Taylor Adams as the New High School Associate, Motion Regarding ECM Minutes and Communication Improvement, and Gender Preaching Series.

**COMMISSIONING OF TAYLOR ADAMS AS NEW HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATE**

With the position of High School Associate vacated due to Nikki moving to Director of Women’s Ministries, Pastor Lloyd and Student Ministries have hired Taylor Adams to fill that position.

Chairman Mike moved that Taylor Adams be commissioned as High School Associate. The motion was seconded and approved by acclamation.

### **MOTION REGARDING ECM MINUTES AND COMMUNICATION IMPROVEMENT**

Since -

- communication is the second to the lowest score relative to other churches surveyed by BCWI, and
- the survey also suggests that RHCC needs to conduct its activities more openly and better explain the reasons behind decisions made,

Chairman Mike C. made the following motion as a first step in improving our communication:

[MOTION] That the elder council and all commissions henceforth will do the following:

- Include in their minutes the rationale for their decisions or course of action, and,
- Identify decisions and action items in a recap section at the end of their minutes, and,
- The commission Elder or a staff member on each commission will email their commission's approved minutes to everyone (all staff and elders) within one week of their approval in an effort to contribute to the improvement in our communications and to increase awareness of what one another has accomplished or is working on, and,
- Staff members with questions about the content or decisions contained in the elder minutes will inquire with the SLT and staff members or elders with questions contained in a commission's minutes will inquire with the commission's staff member and/or elder

The motion was seconded; all were in favor with none opposed.

### **GENDER PREACHING SERIES**

This series will begin in January 2020, continuing through February. Before people are assigned to preach the different subjects in this series, a few items needs to be worked on.

### **ILT STATUS REPORT**

Since Mike D. was unexpectedly absent, this report will be moved to the December 2 ECM. (Department meetings have been the chief thing being worked on at this time.)

### **SLT MONTHLY STATUS REPORT**

The last meeting held was on November 5. Looking back on all the meetings, even those that were more challenging were good, because they ended up with a positive outcome. A new *Dress Code* was presented and discussed. Additionally, Sam should have the new website out by next week.

Clyde gave a quick review on the Harvest Festival, reporting that it was quite successful. It was 50% less expensive and there was about 2/3 the attendance from last year's nighttime version.

### **SENIOR PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE MONTHLY REPORT**

Rod reported that the committee has met approximately 15-20 hours already. They have dialogued with churches that have been through this process recently, including those with internal candidates. They are communicating with and listening to benefits and specific examples from third party search firms that specialize in Senior Pastor Searches. PSW Superintendent Paul Wilson will meet with and give the committee his presentation and insights next week. The committee is seeking the Lord with all their heart, mind and strength – and absorbing all the information they are gathering. They are nowhere near ready to seek any candidates yet. (Rod made a nice video update, which is on the "rhcctransition.com" website. On it, he states that the process will take between one and two years. He also presented a specific prayer list, which will be updated from time to time, asking the church to be actively praying with the committee.)

### **MEXICO SHORT TERM MISSION TRIP REPORT**

Ben gave a thorough and heart-felt report on this trip. The team visited an orphanage, where they played worship music with the kids. They visited a Nazarene church, where they did worship with them and gave a one-night worship music conference. Approximately 125 people from about 23 different churches (mostly Nazarene) attended, coming from as far as 40 miles away. The team gave away some instruments, which really blessed the recipients, some of whom had none. In Tapachula, they did a big event for kids in a park, attended by about 450 kids and about 250 adults. Pastor Mel gave a spur of the moment message, using 8-year-old King Josiah as his subject to whom the kids could relate. Each kid in attendance received a Bible. (The team had purchased 500 bibles for \$750 – money well spent!) The team also went to a beach house owned by Mission Mexico to minister. Kirk met up with a young man whom he had known 8 - 9 years ago. Isaac, now 23 yrs. old, shared that he had

had more “downs” than “ups” over the last few years – but that he really wanted help to do better. He repented; they prayed over him and baptized him that day. You could see the amazing transformation on his face! Ben thanked the Global Outreach Commission for what they do and how they do it.

### **ILT REPORT TO ELDERS ON COMPLETED DEPARTMENT - ILT MEETINGS**

At every meeting, the ILT not only wanted to answer questions, but to make certain that everybody felt heard, appreciated, loved, and cared for. The departments they have met with are Children’s Ministries, Student Ministries, Administration and Communications, Outreach, Adult Ministries, Business Office + F&P + Stewardship + Personnel Commission, and Worship Arts. Some elders expressed concern that the each department’s questions and concerns were not being answered directly and/or clarified.

### **DISCUSSION OF VISION FOR RHCC SERVICE STRUCTURE – CONT’D.**

Ben explained that the landscape of the Saturday evening service has changed a lot. With the Spanish service moving to Sunday morning, the number of children in CM greatly decreased (35-40 kids down to 7-10 kids). However, WAC does not want to let the Saturday pm CM dwindle away. They want to put forth the effort to give it a fair chance by discovering the unique heart of the Saturday PM Service and nurture and grow that. Ben asked that the EC along with WAC invest in the process of planning what to do and how to do it. The EC asked WAC to bring recommendations back for them to consider.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Vice Chairman Anthony ended the meeting in prayer at 9:33 pm.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The EC then entered Executive Session.

### **STAFF ROUNDTABLE – See Appendix A**

### **ELDER ROUNDTABLE – See Appendix B**

#### **Next ECM Dates:**

**December 2, 2019;** and January 6 and (Tuesday) 21, February 3 and (Tuesday) 18, 2020.  
(EC meetings are typically either on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month and sometimes both.)

#### **Next CBM Dates:**

**March 1, May 3, September 20, and November 8, 2020.**

s/Jane Wallin  
Church Secretary

## **APPENDIX A – STAFF UPDATES**

### **Shawn**

Hello Elders, here is an update of what happened on campus this week.  
November 15, 2019

**The Mexico Missions team is back home:** Melvin, Michael, and Ben joined Kirk Lantz for a worship based missions trip to Tapachula, Mexico. Ben will be giving an update at the Elder meeting, but the team shared the gospel with hundreds, baptized a few, and enjoyed relative health the entire time (Kurt became sick, but rallied).  
**We completed our final Trust Meeting with WAC:** Mike Cochrane will be bringing you his personal analysis of our meetings this week to the Elder meeting. We are hoping to have a summary of common themes and recommendations for you by the December 2 Elder meeting.

**Our church had two former students pass away this week:** Hannah Beck and Brooke Bell, both who suffered with drug addiction, passed away this week tragically. Both were in their mid-twenties, and came through Jr. High with Lloyd and High School Ministries with me. The news is especially shocking for Hannah's family, as Hannah's husband died with her due to an overdose. They have left behind two very young daughters.

**We have been dealing with a security issue all week:** On Tuesday, a deranged man came to the church, seeking sanctuary from the LAPD and the FBI. Nate met with him, and asked him to leave the campus when he became belligerent. He has since gone on Facebook and defamed the church. He did jail time in years past for threats made against Torrance Memorial, and we have been working with the Lomita Sheriff and our security team to ensure the campus is secure.

**High School Ministries has hired a new High School Associate, Taylor Adams:** Taylor has served the past two years as an employee in Children's Ministries came through the ministry, and the team could not be more excited. Taylor will start on December 21 to finish up her duties with CM. Students will be notifying a few internal candidates they have not received the job this weekend, so please keep this private until Monday.

**Over 3000 boxes have gone out for Operation Christmas Child, and we are in the process of coming back for collection.**

**This weekend Sam Evans will be in Saturday Night and Blended, and Garrick Hanger will be preaching in Contemporary.**

Thank you everyone,  
Shawn

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**Steve**

**Lloyd**

**Garrick**

## **APPENDIX B – ELDER UPDATES**

**CHAIRMAN (Mike Cochrane)**

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES (Clyde LaGue)**

**CONGREGATIONAL CARE (Jerry Rilling)**

**CONNECT & EQUIP (Gene Chou)**

**FINANCE & PROPERTY (Tom Miller)**

**GLOBAL OUTREACH (Craig Knickerbocker)**

**LIFE GROUP (Mike DiLustro)**

**LOCAL OUTREACH (Hoon Dokko)**

**PERSONNEL (Terry Wheeler)**

**STEWARDSHIP (Richard Smith)**

**STUDENT MINISTRIES (Rod Lenders)**

**WORSHIP ARTS (Ben Eroen)**