

OEFC Members Meeting 4.13.2025

Elder Proposal to pursue a full-time Pastor of Youth Discipleship and a part-time Associate Pastor.

Rationale:

As we considered the survey responses and congregational feedback from our last meeting, we believe it would be wise to pursue a full-time pastor of youth discipleship and a part-time associate pastor.

A full-time **Pastor of Youth Discipleship** would enable us to better disciple the growing number of children and teens in our church by assigning him one primary area of ministry oversight. Additionally, this position would also allow us to pursue a well-qualified candidate at lower salary (see spreadsheet). Thus, freeing up resources to consider a part-time Associate Pastor.

Objectives:

- develop a deliberate scope and sequence for the discipleship of our children and teens.
- provide opportunities for focused discipleship and equipping with smaller groups of students.
- develop a pattern of consistent outreach to reach unsaved friends and neighbors with the gospel.
- connect our teens to service opportunities inside and outside the church.
- pursue opportunities for short-term missionary service.
- invest in the development of a younger pastor as he seeks to grow in his ability to serve the local church.

A part-time **Associate Pastor** would give us a greater ability to disciple and equip the growing number of adults in our church.

Objectives:

- assist pastor Mark with adult discipleship (Wed. night) and the administration of OEFC.
- support, develop, and expand geographical accessibility of small group ministry.
- increase ability to identify and equip ministry leaders.

OEFC Members Meeting 4.13.2025

Proposed Initial Priority:

1. We believe it would be wise to start pursuing a **Pastor of Youth Discipleship** as soon as possible so that a search committee can start collecting applications, identify a qualified candidate, and organize an official candidate visit before the end of summer.

2. We believe it would be wise to pause our official search for an **Associate Pastor** until the youth pastor search is well underway for at least three reasons:

- Youth discipleship was the highest priority in our recent survey.
- With summer around the corner, we recognize we are in a very busy time of year for many people.
- Greg Griesemer has expressed interest in this position and the elders wholeheartedly support his interest; however, we need time to review details from his time at his former church.