

Action to Disorganize the New Harvest Lindsay Church of the Brethren

In early 2017 the New Harvest Lindsay congregation's leadership began conversation with the District Executive Minister about next steps for the congregation and its future ministry. They had been without regular pastoral leadership or pulpit fill for several months. Many possibilities were explored including calling out a member of the congregation to be licensed and trained for ministry in their setting. Various doors of possibility closed and in August of 2017 the congregation voted to close if the church facility could be repurposed or sold. The District Executive Board appointed a Closing Committee consisting of Karen Pierson, Joel Price, and Russ Matteson to work with the congregation on issues around ending ministry. In October 2017 the closing committee and congregational leaders met with leadership of Vision Calvary Chapel of Porterville to hear a proposal to sell Vision Calvary Chapel the Lindsay property for their use as a church. Details were worked out and in late November 2017 the sale of the property was completed (property was sold for \$125,000). The congregation decided that they did not wish to have a closing service before the property was transferred over to the new owner. In the Spring of 2018 final records were transferred to the District. All members of the congregation have found new churches to call home and there is no membership to be cared for. Love Feast and Communion supplies from the Lindsay congregation were received by the District to be given to the two new churches in Los Banos and Las Vegas. We give thanks for the 107 years of faithful ministry of the Lindsay and New Harvest congregation.

The Policy Board recommends to the District Conference that the New Harvest Lindsay Church of the Brethren be disorganized.