

Deacon Minutes – Approved
08 March 2016

Present: Matt Armstrong, Teri Burgen, Pastor Cable, Ethan Funk, Mary Lancaster, Pam Parker, Ishi Stackpole, Don Vande Polder, Gail Stewart, Paula Willis
Absent: Cindy Taylor,

Opening Prayer: Ishi Stackpole

Meeting Opened: 7:04 pm

February's Deacon Minutes: Approved as written. Will be sent on to Deacons, Session and office staff.

Pastor's Report

- Welcomed new deacons, Teri Burgen and Ethan Funk and thanked Mary Lancaster for renewing for another term as deacon. Teri Burgen will be working on Helps team and Ethan Funk will be working on Finance team.
- Ritchey gave an overview of purpose and definition of Deacons, the 4 teams that will report during the Board of Deacons meetings and how a delegate from each team gives a brief (3 minute) testimony of what is happening on each team at a deacons meeting. Deacons in their own team meetings are encouraged to act and flourish with their team.
- Ritchey gave Teri Burgen and Ethan Funk the book, *Ministries of Mercy* by Tim Keller, the book the Board of Deacons have been studying and discussing.
- Challenge to Deacons/Elders to go thru Re-Shape Class headed up by Mark Blakely. If we have gone thru the class, we can encourage others to take part. Mark will be in touch with us.
- Teams will be receiving emails regarding members who would be a good fit for our teams via Re-Shape Class.

Team Reports Reminder that Team Reports are due Sunday evening before Board of Deacons Meeting allowing ample time for Deacons to review prior to the Deacon's meeting.

- **Helps – Paula Willis**
 - Chris Stackpole presented his vision and an overview of having a Ministry Fair on May 18, 2016 during last conversation meeting. The event would reflect/showcase all the teams at GEPC, what their purpose, highlights, and thanking current members who are serving and getting other members involved. Elders and Deacons were receptive and Helps team will begin work with Marilyn on creating a template for the posters of each team.
 - Conversation table/chair setup will begin at 5:15 each Wed. Still could use some helpers for the next 9 weeks.

- **Finance – Ethan Funk**
 - Ethan Funk hasn't attended a finance meeting yet. Will have an update at our next meeting and believes in transparency and will be sharing more from finance team with the Board of Deacons in the coming months.
- **Property – Matt Armstrong**
 - Water heater for Ministry Center kitchen has been fixed.
- **Mercy – Mary Lancaster**
 - Pick a Lily program very successful ministry for those possibly unable to join us during Lenten season. Church members could choose handmade greeting cards and to visit with shut-ins OR handmade cards and enclose a small gift card to be sent to college students.
 - Kathy McFarland will now oversee Compassion Meals for those needing a meal due to death in family, health issues, new baby etc.
- **Coordinating Team – Don Vande Polder**
 - Deacons have recommended decorating team be considered under Worship Team and working with Helps Team when needed, Don will take recommendation to coordinating team and contact Sarah Sporrer.

Old Business

- Re-election of Mary Lancaster as Moderator and Cindy Taylor as Clerk of the Board of Deacons was approved with Ethan Funk's presence as new deacon.
- Mary planning a meeting between Mercy, Phil and the elders on Outreach to start exploring ways we can work together regarding ministry partnerships and home grown ministries.

New Business

- Deacons look forward to more interaction from Finance Team and Ethan is eager to share information to keep Deacons more informed.

WOW reports

- Explained WOW – something we know God obviously intervened and we can share!
- Ishi texting/praying with middle schooler. Paula and son, Brad, praying about missing wallet that was found. Gail sharing friends of theirs coming to Christ and planning to go back to church. Ethan's prayers at 4:30 a.m. answered that day.

Closing Prayer: Mary Lancaster

Meeting adjourned: 8:10 p.m.

Next Meeting: 12 April 2016 @ 6:30p.m. in Library

Respectfully submitted,
 Paula Willis
 Acting Clerk of Deacons
 Mary Lancaster
 Moderator