

Deacon Minutes Approved  
13 Aug 2019

Present: Pam Parker, Marion Lynn, Cindy Taylor, Debbie Ellison, Steve Stalder, Dennis King, Ishi Stackpole, and Jim Lorenzetti

Absent: Rob Stegeman and Pastor Cable

Opening Prayer: Pam Parker

Meeting Opened: 5:48 p.m.

- Quorum established.
- July 2019 Deacon Minutes: Approved as written. Ordered to be sent out to the Deacons, Session and Office Staff.

**Pastor's Report**

- Love Thy Neighbor teaching (JL) – Luke 23: 32-34
  - Who does the Bible say we should pray for?
    - 1 Tim 2:1 (All people); 2:2 (Gov't leaders); 2:4 (Unsaved)
    - Eph 6:18 (Fellow Christians); 6:19-20 (Ministries of the Gospel)
    - Heb 13:3 (Persecuted church)
    - Luke 22:32 (Jesus prayed for Peter)
    - John 17:9 (Disciples and Believers throughout eternity)
  - Prayer/Great Commandment
    - Prepares/changes our hearts
    - Reminds us that God loves the person we are praying for
    - Humbles us – places God in His rightful place and us in ours
  - For whom are we to pray?
    - See above
    - Enemies, those who hate us, those who are “hooked” by Satan
  - Barriers
    - Self-Centeredness
    - Lack of knowledge of need or the person
    - Lack of time
    - Can get messy
    - Lack of concern/compassion
    - Don't know where to begin
  - How are we to pray for our neighbors
    - Intentionally
    - Specific problems, but also for Spiritual Blessings as Jesus/Paul did
      - Faith
      - Against temptation

- Unity
  - Sanctification
  - Salvation
  - To stay on the right path
- Pray with the person in the time of need
- Prayers role in making disciples
  - Only God can change the heart
  - Praying with someone serves as a role model
  - Breaks down barriers/opens the heart
  - Vehicle for spreading the Word, making disciples, partnering in the process (Col 4:3)
- Final analogy
  - After praying, the hands are unclasped, then there are 2 hands
    - Prelude to next month

## **Team Reports**

- **Coordinating**
  - See report
  - Currently in the season of Elder/Deacon selection
  - Leadership who are rotating off should intentionally be looking for possible replacement to submit for Elder Deacon
  - Deacon meetings will be moved to the Reception Room to reduce heating/cooling costs
  - First Aid Training being looked into
  - Question regarding Izzy Tott volunteering for Conversation set up discussed
- **Finance**
  - Pledges on pace at the end of July 2019
  - Unpledged given is behind about 50% of projected (~\$80K shortfall)
  - Per week giving similar to last 2018
  - May be time for all to tighten money belts
    - Finance team should be discussing numbers at next meeting
    - Session stepped out in faith with aggressive budget this year.
  - As the Deacon Board, charged with overseeing the budget, what can we do?
    - Prayer (Ishi offered prayer for guidance during meeting)
    - How should we get the message out to the congregation?
      - Method and how much to share
    - Other ideas? Will get information from FT after their meeting.
- **Helps**
  - See report
  - Glenn Tott decided not to step down from Chair Team Lead
    - Chair Team still needs volunteers

- Discipleship Brunch on 1 Sep 2019 in MC
  - Need volunteers for set up/clean up
  - Will be between services (no Sunday School)
  - Approximately 250 adults expected
  - Potluck
  - Communion will be moved to 8 Sep 2019
- Coffee Team looking for volunteers for 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday
  - Contact Debbie Failing
- Suggestion made for leadership to be re-educated on procedure to request help from the HELPS team for an event
  - Contact team through [helps@gashland.org](mailto:helps@gashland.org) with details
  - For external events, the front office will forward a copy of the application which is through CCB
- **Mercy**
  - see report
  - email sent to Relationships Team to see if they will take over the Senior Summer Bash
- **Property**
  - No report

### **Old Business**

- Ministry Center chairs
  - Marion (HT) has talked to Rob (PT) concerning the chair situation

### **New Business**

- None

### **WOW reports/Prayer Requests**

- Michael has been doing a wonderful job this summer with all the added responsibilities and preaching.

Closing Prayer: Marion Lynn

Meeting adjourned: 7:03 pm

Next Meeting: 10 Sep 2019 at 5:45 in Reception Room

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Taylor  
Clerk of Deacons

Pam Parker  
Vice-Moderator