

Deacon Minutes – Approved
13 September 2016

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

Absent: None

Opening Prayer: Matt Armstrong

Meeting Opened: 6:38 pm (Dinner); 7:24 pm (Deacon Meeting)

August's Deacon Minutes: Approved as written. Ordered to be sent out to the Deacons, Session and Office Staff.

Pastor's Report

- Wednesday Night Conversations Plan announced
 - Gashland [MD] – The Waiting Room
 - Pre-op visit – prayer by Elder
 - Discussion – Icebreaker
 - Dr. update – Recap of Sunday Morning/testimony
 - Discussion
 - Post-op report –Ministry Team Updates/Prayer
 - Meant to cultivate season of listening to God, hearing what he would teach, prayer
 - Components of Elder prayer
 - That God would teach us
 - We would listen
 - Pray for participants
 - Schedule
 - 14 Sep – Roy
 - 21 Sep – Larry
 - 28 Sep – Mark L
 - 5 Oct – Aaron
 - 12 Oct – Don
 - IceBreaker for 14 Sep will be the Before/After Christ
 - Pictures will be collected and posted to Website
 - Purpose to train people in testimony
 - Prepares hearts for what is to come
 - Testimonies
 - Ministry Team Updates
 - Testimony of what we have done
 - What is going on in the life of our team
 - Praying/waiting for what God is calling us to do next

- Schedule based on Beatitude
 - 14 Sep – Coordinating Team
 - 21 Sep – Outreach Team
 - 28 Sep – Helps Team
 - 5 Oct – Finance Team
 - 12 Oct – Discipleship Team
 - 19 Oct – Relationships Team
 - 26 Oct – Mercy Team
 - 2 Nov – Worship Team
 - 9 Nov – Property Team
 - 16 Nov – Thanksgiving Dinner
 - New Prayer Line
 - Testing this morning was not supposed to go out to all
 - Apology that reply to all function turned on
 - Action Items:
 - Send emails to Deacons/Elders explaining
 - Elder Opening Prayer
 - Team presentations
 - Schedule of team presentations

Team Reports

- **Helps**
 - See report
 - Conversations starts tomorrow – appreciate prayer
 - Will be serving from kitchen window
 - First Team
 - Seeing a lot of new people in 2nd service
 - Conscientious about engaging new visitors
 - Definition
 - Tweaked a few lines as reported
 - Coffee
 - Collections to help with expenses going well
- **Finance**
 - No meeting so no report submitted
 - Suggested that Ethan present to Finance Team that they have more regular meetings, perhaps monthly, as other teams do
 - Do not yet have 31 August financials
 - Metrolife departure had no meaningful financial impact on church since their rent went into a sweep account and was not used for designated budget items
 - Continuing to look into electronic giving items
- **Property**
 - See report
 - Discussed various repairs including concrete/parking lot

- Will be getting new countertop in MC kitchen
- Discussed organizing storage of tables and high chairs
- Note: All hallways are to be kept clear of stored items

- **Coordinating Team**
 - See report
 - Audit report
 - Results and recommendations made and given to coordinating team to sort through and distribute to appropriate teams
 - Financial and Procedural processes need to be evaluated and fixed
 - Spreadsheet of recommendations
 - Thermostat will be handled by the facilities manager, who falls under Personnel (Coordinating Team)

- **Mercy Team**
 - See report
 - Hearing Loop Team has been formed
 - Operation HelpNet would appreciate prayers
 - Revamping of Operation 180
 - John Russell would like a partner to help lead
 - Intended to cultivate culture of Mercy throughout the church
 - “Adopt a College Student” has met with great success

Old Business

- Helps team definition complete
- AED has arrived and is outside the office. Monthly checks will be performed by Emily and recorded online.

New Business

- Discussed question of what to do if someone wants to help someone specific financially, but anonymously, through the church
 - Cannot use Mercy Fund without following application process
 - Cannot “donate” to church and then have money given to a specific person
 - Can have “donation” picked up by specified person in office to keep anonymous, but cannot go through church’s finances

WOW reports

- Ritchey has had a particularly hard summer this year and was very tired last week when 2 separate people who felt a burden on their hearts to reach out and want to take something off his plate blessed him. Also, has had a few personal things coming in this week, which have been encouraging.
- Ritchey also was blessed by an unexpected communication with another Christian in ministry when an email for Steve Boen, who was to read a scripture for David Meyers funeral, was misdirected (maybe by autocorrect) to a man with a slightly different email address (boens* @ yahoo versus bowens*@yahoo).

- After visiting family this last week, Cindy very thankful for leadership and teaching of Gospel at GEPC. Parents still attending another denomination's church and do not get the same quality teaching of the Word.
- Beatitude progression explanation during the sermon on Sunday.
- Ishi, while encouraging a middle school girl who was being bullied at school, got an insightful text from the girl who said, "That means this person needs prayer". Such maturity is evident in our young people.

Closing Prayer: Ritchey Cable

Meeting adjourned: 8:22 pm

Next Meeting: 11 Oct 2016

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Taylor
Clerk of Deacons

Mary Lancaster
Moderator