Deacon Minutes – Approved

March 16, 2021

**Members in Attendance:**

Larry Anderson, Pastor Cable, Barry Cooper, Debbie Failing, Diane Fry, Mary Lancaster, Wes Langford, Jim Lorenzetti and Marion Lynn.

* Opening Prayer at 6:15 by Mary Lancaster.
* Quorum is established.
* The February minutes are approved, and ordered to be submitted to the deacons, Session, and office staff.
* Nomination and election of offices for 2021 was made. Larry Anderson moved to approve and was seconded by Marion Lynn.

Moderator – Wes Langford

Co-Moderator – Mary Lancaster

Clerk – Debbie Failing

* Pastor’s Report:

Discussion has been to plan a Fall kickoff to engage the congregation in the return to church.

Relationship team has set the 1st Sunday after Labor Day to be the kickoff date.

Work is being done for a new website and new signage for summer.

Pastor Cable has met several new families (5) that have initially joined the services thru Zoom.

The Demerest family has moved to Washington.

Pastor Cable will finish his sabbatical next month, April, to shoot his upcoming film. The time will be 3 weeks. Michael will preach the 3 Sundays in Pastor Cable’s absence .

The funeral for Dr. Kuenzi will be Saturday, 10:00am March 20th with the visitation on Friday 6-8pm March 19th.

There will be 3 services for Easter this year with an addition of a sunrise service at 6:55. With Covid still an issue, this will help to accommodating the congregation with social distance issues still in place.

* Pastor Cable and the deacons discussed Chapter 10 of “From Embers to a Flame” on Leadership. Pastor Cable stated leadership always works. Leadership development qualities were listed as character, content and competency.

Hebrews 13:7 “Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.”

Pastor Cable asked the group for insight to the chapter, elements we can learn from.

Barry expressed the interest in the author with Robert E Lee and his approach to leadership. One was : Circumstances do not dictate over character. Instead they reveal it and provide the opportunity to refine it.

* What is Good Leadership:

Leaders learn continually from the past not to recreate it.

Leaders seek to change the environment

Leaders look to the future.

In the discussion, it was reflected that leaders should empower the rest of the church. Each team is not just worker bees. Leaders should influence others to aid in achieving the mission of the team and to be creative in that.

* Influence of a Godly Leader:

Education: to train others

Embodiment: influence others by personal embodying the truth they teach; learn by imitation.

Empowerment: motivate others to achieve success.

Evaluate: Stay connected to those you train.

* Pastor Cable asked the group to list strengths and weeknesses of our church leadership.

Strengths –

True grace of different views and approaches

Approachable pastors.

Weakness –

Attempting to get people engaged

Need a track to build leadership in the church

Team Reports:

1. Coordinating:
   * None
2. Session:

Met last Thursday. Items discussed were:

* + any policy changes necessary. At this time appears to not be.
  + PPP Loan. The request for the loan and the forgiveness of the loan was explained to the congregation.
  + New Members
  + How to use any additional money received. What is the Lord calling us to do – No consensus as yet

1. Finance:

Larry Anderson reported that minutes have been sent. They will meet next on

4-14-21. We are right on budget at -$900. Giving levels are ahead of last year at this time.

1. Helps:

Diane Fry reported. It was reported that we have had more people attending the 11 o’clock service. There was a request for 30 additional chairs to be set up for the upcoming Sunday. After which the team will assess the need for any further additions.

It was requested to consider reestablishing the Sunday morning Coffee ministry on 4/11/21. Diane will contact the Coordinating team at the request of Pastor Cable.

The First team will prepare for the funeral for Dr. Kuenzi. There will be 30 family members that will be seated together. They will tie the pews off according after that.

1. Mercy:

* Mary reported Marion’s addition to the team. They had a special meeting to go thru the membership for people needing additional attention during this time.
* Robin Bowen is also a new member to the team. She is in charge of the Care Team, which does cards, and arranges visits among other things. She is organized and full of ideas to try.
* Marion reported on a new calling campaign, maybe in the late summer to tough every member. One idea is to assign Blessing Buddies to specific people.
* Michael is spearheading an effort to improve the shepherding teams and their outreach.

1. Property:

* Rob reported there is damage to the church on the south side. It appears that rocks from the island were thrown against the wall and damaged it. The team is determining how they can go about repairing this damage and avoiding any further damage.
* In their next meeting, they plan to take a list of projects, prioritize them with the moneys they have and start attacking it early in the year not later.
* Jim oversaw the erection of the basketball goal. The youth came thru with the physical labor, mixing concrete and stabilizing the pole.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Diane had brought up the idea of engaging visitors on Sunday morning. She has noticed times when visitors were attending the service but were not welcomed as they were leaving. We should make a concerted effort to great them and welcome them. This is something we may want to bring up to the First Team group for their ideas.

Jim said the mask is a barrier to some. One it is hard sometimes to recognize if you know the person or they are new to our church. Also with the current environment with approaching others in the realm of safe distancing.

Rob suggested name tags as an option. He had been to other churches that used that approach.

WOW Report /Prayer Requests:

* Wes had a WOW with a co-worker who had once been a missionary in Alaska. He was able to pray with him @ work at his request. It was refreshing to do it in the work place!
* Rob had a prayer request for Toni’s parents as they discuss a move to assisted care facility. Also specifically for his father-in-law, George, who is not a believer. Pray for his health, the ease of the move and especially for him to find God.
* Jim asked for prayers for Alan, Heather’s father, who had a triple by-pass and was having some later complications.
* Pastor Cable had a WOW as prayers for his back have resulting in it feeling much better. Another WOW with regards to the upcoming movie filming, a KickStart page was set up to seek help with $15,000 needed and the need for ‘extras’ in the filming. This was placed on social media and picked up by the Courier (Conrad’s paper) the Houston Chronicle and an NBC affiliate. This result in the response of 5,000 extras. Of course they don’t need that many at this time, but it reflects the interest in the movie.

Closing Prayer: Marion Lynn

Meeting adjourned at 7:38

Next Zoom meeting: April 20, 2021 @ 6:15 p.m.

Debbie Failing – Clerk

Wes Langford - Moderator