Minutes from Deacon Meeting –Approved

September 21, 2021

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|  | **Attend** | **Deacon** | **Attend** |
| Anderson, Larry | P | Langford, Wes | P |
| Cooper, Barry | P | Lorenzetti, Jim | A |
| Failing, Debbie | P | Lynn, Marion | P |
| Fry, Diane | P | Stegeman, Rob | P |
| Lancaster, Mary | P | Pastor Cable, Ritchey | P |
|  |  | Vande Polder, Don | P |

* Opening Prayer at 6:20 by Larry Anderson.
* Quorum is established.
* The August minutes are approved
	+ Moved by Barry Cooper and seconded by Mary Lancaster.
* **Pastor’s Report:**

Pastor Cable asked if we would like to start a new devotional. His suggestion was a book by Timothy Keller titled “Ministries of Mercy”. It was agreed by all present to participate. Pastor Cable will order and have in the office on Friday for pickup. The cost of the book is $14 from Amazon if we want to contribute.

Pastor Cable asked that we review the budget next week with regard to each of our areas and be able to inform the session of items to include.

**Discussion of “From Embers to a Flame”** Chapter 13

Pastor Cable restated the strategy of the book thru the eye of the deacon in chapter 8., all teams have a role to play.

HELPS team infuse people into the church.

Mentoring passes down information and policies to the next people in line. A good example of this is Rob pouring his experience into Barry on the Property team.

Mary made a statement that we need more mentoring in general for new people on the team.

Pastor Cable let us know that the Session is working on creating a calendar of items to follow each year so that all items are accomplished in a timely manner.

Mary offered Chapter 5-6 on Praying as important. We are a praying body but do we give lip service when it comes to Corporate prayer. Marion stated the prayer chain is strong! The under-shepherds are doing their part praying for each of their charges. The Youth group is strong in praying.

Pastor Cable asked where is the opportunity for Corporate prayer to do more?

The session is trying to fellowship praying

Marion stated The Mercy team could have an opportunity to pray for some over the phone with people they are contacting.

Mary asked when people leave the church, do we ask why? Pastor Cable responded that we do reach out to those who have not been here for awhile before removing them from the role. Marion suggested a possible survey.

In closing, Mary suggested that we each should challenge ourselves with regards to the 10 items: How do we individually stack up.

* **Team Reports**:
1. **Coordinating/Session**: Don Vande Polder reported.

**COVID**- Mask wearing is again an issue. It is encouraged to wear masks while inside. Elders/Deacons are asked to continue to set an example and follow this guideline.

1. **Finance**:

Larry Anderson said Phil has sent team minutes. We have seen an improvement in the negative loss, it has gone down. The last month was good but still below last year.

There was a WOW to report. The piano was covered with plenty of money. The Kuenzi memorial did not need to contribute to the refurbishing at all.

1. **Helps**:

Diane reported for the team.

* We discussing ways to show our appreciation to the volunteers.
* We plan to make a short presentation to the new members class. We hope to garner some interest there.
* Also Diane was excited about the HELPS team being included in the October Porch magazine. This adds a needed exposure to what we do and what others can contribute to the needs of the church in a meaningful behind-the-scenes way.

1. **Mercy**:

Mary reported:

* + - There were several funeral meals this past month.
		- The team is taking good care of those who cannot come to church. They have had elders reach out for help for individuals.
1. **Property**:

Barry Cooper reported.

* + Mitigation of water in the lower level : a trench was dug around the door by the patio to divert excess water. A future issue to be resolved is the sealing of the outside wall, currently not in the budget.
	+ Dale is still waiting on communication from the city on the drainage issue.
	+ They plan to clean out the courtyard in the lower level.
	+ The WIFI / phone system is being reviewed. Current phone system is expensive. If we maintain our own the cost may be $140 a month cheaper than current system. Currently upstairs they are piggybacking 3 routers upstairs for the morning service, could be contributing to the sporadic coverage. They are getting a quote both outside and in house.
	+ There have been some issues with vandalism. We do have cameras that cover almost the entire outside of the church.
	+ Groundhog mitigation is finished around the Amos house.
	+ We still need to find a ways to clean and paint the railings.
	+ A request from the Property Team, please do not stack the chairs/tables or any items by the sprinkler systems.

Old Business:

Two of our deacons volunteered to serve on the nominating committee. They are Jim Lorenzetti and Larry Anderson.

New Business:

Begin reading our new suggested book, Ministries of Mercy.

WOW Report /Prayer Requests:

* Pastor Cable’s WOW moment this last month revolved around a family with a young child who had a significant loss and reached out to Pastor Cable to get spiritual guidance.
* Mary said a young man they know took his own life. Someone very near and dear to them is hurting very hard from this tragedy and she asks for prayers for this person and all who grieve the loss.
* Wes had a WOW to offer. A positive conversation was happening with a kid who went to Unity Village from Guatemala and invited to come to our church. Praise God for these opportunities to spread the word.

Closing Prayer: Marion Lynn

Meeting adjourned at 8:08

Next In Person/Zoom meeting: October 19, 2021 @ 6:15 p.m

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Moderator - Wes Langford

Clerk - Debbie Failing