Minutes from Deacon Meeting – Approved

November 16, 2021

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

* Opening Prayer at 6:20 by Larry Anderson.
* Quorum is established.
* The October minutes are approved with correction requested by Marion Lynn.
  + Moved by Marion Lynn and seconded by Larry Anderson.
* **Pastor’s Report:**

Pastor Cable thanked the team for the gift and for card of encouragement.

The nominating team, including deacons Jim and Larry, have made the nominations for 2022. For the session they have put forth Tom Crossett, Jim Langford and Dave Wiersma. For the deacons they have put forth Josia Colle and Steve Moberg with the 3rd position still to be finalized.

**Ministries of Mercy discussion: Thru Chapter 1**

The discussion centered around how we view our call to mercy for others to reflect Christ’s love and what it looks like to administer mercy/help.

Compassion and empathy are needed

Knowing when to help those who aren’t asking for help

Do we expect thanks for the help we give?

Responses to question at the end of Chapter 1:

Q1. In what ways does our mercy to the needy reflect the love of Christ?

Mercy should be given sacrificially with the proper attitude of compassion

Q2. What needs to happen in our life before we are able to give mercy?

Need a change of heart to see the poor and needy. Some among us have witnessed extreme poor and needy in other countries.

Q3. On what scriptural bases is the necessity of mercy established?

The need for mercy is a reflection of the Gospel. To care for the widows and orphans, tend to the sick in body and spirit

Q4. Why do we tend to think of mercy as an option?

There are social workers, we pay taxes so they will do it.

Don’t want to get our hands/heart dirty.

Not my spiritual gift

All in all It’s still a team effort with some giving the money and some distribute to others in need.

Q5. In what ways is Christ our model for mercy?

Jesus sacrificed for us with the poor. We need to follow his example.

**Team Reports**:

1. **Coordinating/Session**: Don Vande Polder reported. Later tonight is the monthly meeting. These items will be discussed further where necessary.
   * **COVID**- This policy is in discussion. They will leave the roped areas in the 1st service for those who want to distance.
   * Doing staff evaluations
   * Are still determining whether to do phone and WIFI in-house or to contract outside
   * The audit is completed with no significant issues found.
   * Continue to Work on data storage issue.
2. **Finance**:

Larry Anderson said Phil has sent team minutes. We have seen a significant improvement in the giving this month. The deficit has gone way down this month and that Phil expects we may be in the black by years end.

1. **Helps**:

Debbie reported for the team.

* Our meeting this month was discussing ways to thank our volunteers at the end of the year. We found that we have a large number of volunteers, over 70, that we rely on every month.

1. **Mercy**:

Marion reported:

* + - The team discussed Mercy fund requests.
    - May need more people to add to the team. Men especially for visitations to homebound individuals.

1. **Property**:

Barry Cooper reported.

* + Mitigation of water in the lower level still being worked on along with discussion of future needs to secure completion.
  + Documentation discussion regarding Procedures and Policy. Given to Michael. Also policy around the security cameras is being reviewed.
  + Tree was planted in memory of Dr Don Kuenzi.
  + Reports of mice in the upstairs kitchen and ants in the downstairs kitchen. This is being attended to.
  + Ice machine is being cleaned. Suggested we make good use of the ice to keep it fresh.
  + Dale is still waiting on communication from the city on the drainage issue.
  + They will clean out the courtyard in the lower level now that no objections received.
  + Groundhog mitigation is finished around the Amos house.
  + We still need to find a ways to clean and paint the railings. Getting recommendations.

Old Business:

Read Chapter 2 for our book, Ministries of Mercy.

New Business:

Larry and Jim would like to discuss deacons’ involvement in the stewardship campaign on behalf of the Finance team.

They are asking the deacons to assist in the calling of individuals who have pledged in the past years and did not turn in a card this year. Those who agreed will get a couple of cards to call. This will help the team and will aid in completing an accurate budget for 2022.

WOW Report /Prayer Requests:

* Wes’s Wow was that in attempting to get his car traded he found that his car was covered for repairs giving him his car back with a new engine!
* Pastor Cable’s WOW happened in making his film. He needed a picture for the film to be drawn and put out feelers at Baylor. He received only one response and it was from the son of his best friend of ministry in Louisiana whom he had not been in contact for a time, giving him an opportunity to connect.
* Mary’s mother passed after a long illness and her WOW was as the family gathered together they able to reconcile past issues in an enormous way.
* Marion asked prayers for Kevin to find peace and recover quickly from a blood clot that is keeping him from working.

Closing Prayer: Barry Cooper

Meeting adjourned at 7:58

Next In Person/Zoom meeting: December 21 , 2021 @ 6:15 p.m

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Moderator - Wes Langford

Clerk - Debbie Failing