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# MINUTES OF THE DIACONATE

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GLENS FALLS  
APRIL 14, 2009  
7PM

In Attendance: Shirley Clark, Caspar Green, Tegan Whiting, Kathie McCoy, Debbie Hill, Nancy Holmes, Peg Moody, Julia Farenell, Bob Addison (Trustee Guest), Clara LeBarron, Marie Ross, and Tammy Jones.

1. Opening Prayer: Caspar led the group in prayer.

2. Introduction of Guests: Caspar introduced \_\_\_\_\_ and their two sons as tonight's visitors. Blair, the 13 yr. old son of the family, is going to be baptized here at church this Sunday. It is customary for the Deacons in our church to get a chance to meet individuals wanting to be baptized and Blair was asked to come to tonight's meeting. Blair mentioned that he likes the Gospel of Mark and came with a personal statement, which he read to the group. He stated... "I think the Gospel of Mark is about what God and Jesus wants me to do, which is to be kind and caring towards others. I should help other people out with their needs. When someone tries to get me to do something that is wrong, I should rely upon my faith to give me strength to know the right thing to do."

Caspar mentioned that Shane Ross is going to be Blair's spiritual mentor and will be meeting with him after baptism. Kathie asked for our group members to say "Yes" if they would like to have Blair as part of our congregation and everyone responded positively.

Mention was made that Blair would like to try working at the basement store and is excited to join the youth group. The family exited and the meeting continued.

Shirley will call Wanda Haverly and let her know that we need a cake for a Baptism reception this Sunday.

3. Review of the Minutes: There was a correction in last month's minutes of the spelling of Candy Fischer's last name, and they way her name appeared under the title of "Introduction of Guests." We did not want to confuse the fact that Candy is a member of the Diaconate, not a guest. Clara moved that the rest of the minutes be accepted as amended and Marie seconded the motion. Passed.

4. Care Team: Clara stated that the Care Team served communion to the shut-ins during the month of March. Lilies from the Easter service were delivered to those that wanted them. There are a few left and anyone that knows someone that might like to have them may go ahead and take them.

## 5. Christian Ed.:

a) Kathie needs to get in touch with Bill Jones about the curriculum for the high school students.

b) Children's Sunday is on the 14th of June. Marie is leaving the worship leader position open and Kathie and Caspar will get together to decide what might transpire on that day in terms of a program.

c) Pathfinder Camp – Caspar has had a request from Bryce Brueder for a camp scholarship for this summer. Five hundred dollars is budgeted for summer camp. Kathie stated that P.J Fisher and Lizzie Medve might also be interested in going to camp this summer. Caspar got a camp brochure out to give us an idea of the expense of going to camp. He said that there is a \$75.00 registration fee and that the programs for students other than preschoolers runs anywhere for \$290.00 to \$300.00 depending on the program that you choose to attend. There are also different discounts available such as if you sign up before May 1st (\$20.00 discount), or if you bring a buddy (\$10.00 discount). Bryce was hoping to sign up before May 1st. A motion was made by Nancy to give \$150.00 to each camper that would like to go to camp this summer and it was seconded by Debbie. All were in favor of this motion.

6. Missions: Julia stated that the Missions Team has decided on the Mission Moments for the rest of the year. Carol Cromwell will speak on the Adirondack Veterans in May and Tegan will speak on the One Great Hour of Sharing in June. July/August will be the ABC/NYS Regional, September- Community Action, October- World Mission,

November-American Bible Society (Julia Farenell), and in December-Retired Ministers with Christmas Eve being the Cameron Center.

Kathie asked if anyone else had any other ideas for missions in case we wanted to assign separate missions to July and August. She mentioned the Heifer International which provides animals to people in need among other things. Marie mentioned similar groups including World Visions, and Samaritan's Purse. Another idea for missions is the Habitat for Humanity. Caspar had an idea of possibly having a month designated for missionaries that our church is familiar with, like the Davidsons. Perhaps one activity would be for our youth to write letters to the children in the missionaries' families. Marie asked if it would be possible to get videos from the missionaries to show to our congregation to help us feel more connected. Caspar said that these are available and he will look into getting some for us to view. Caspar also gave us a brief look into how missionaries are supported which included three different ways – United Missions, the World Mission Offering, and the support of congregations to specific missionaries. Right now, our church doesn't have any budget line for any specific missionary. Kathie asked the Diaconate and the Missions Team to consider the discussed missions options and make a decision at the next meeting.

7. Worship: Shirley stated that we need more individuals to sign up as ushers. Julia asked if we could ask the youth to join the adults in serving as ushers.

Marie sent a Worship leader list to Caspar for May and June. She stated that there are some important Sundays coming up to include Mother's Day (May 10th), Memorial Day (May 24th),

and Father's Day (June 21st). A discussion was made as to whether anything special should be done on those days. Caspar will get special bulletin covers for those services. It was asked that if anyone has any other ideas for something special to be done, please let Nancy, Shirley or Marie know as soon as possible.

Bob Addison asked if there was any way to get music printed out that would aid the congregation in singing the songs that appear on the overhead during the service, as some of the songs are unfamiliar to many people and are hard to follow. Caspar said that this is not possible but he could suggest to Shane Ross and/or Bill Jones that they play the song before the service begins so that people will at least be familiar with the tune before the song appears later on.

#### 8. Other Group Updates:

a) Youth Group - The youth held their scheduled movie night and made \$8.00 selling food items for refreshments. They will be trying it again on another night but the Diaconate suggested that it be better advertised next time.

b) Fellowship Team – Kathie talked to Wanda Haverly who agreed to be the leader of the Fellowship Team.

c) Open Door – The next Open Door event will be April 29th. Kathleen Davie has been organizing the Open Door most recently and it was mentioned that someone needs to check with her and see if she wants to continue doing this. Peg wanted to let us know that our church is greatly appreciated by the Open Door as we not only send in the food but have individuals that are willing to work on site serving the people. Not all churches do this.

d) Choir – Tammy asked if anyone in the choir had asked Alexis Fischer to join the choir and Kathie said that she had a letter all ready to send asking her to join, as soon as she could obtain her address. Debbie wondered how old a child had to be to join the choir because she had heard that \_\_\_\_\_ was interested in joining the choir. We discussed that an 11-year-old had joined in the past.

#### 9. Trustees Update: Bob reported on the Trustees meeting which he attended on 4-7-09. The following had been discussed:

a) Rails - The rails in the front of the sanctuary will be installed as soon as they are cut to length.

b) Sink - The sink in the women's bathroom has been installed.

c) Tile - Bill Jones is working on scheduling time in to work on repairing the tile damage in the preschool room.

d) Signs - Caspar will be ordering signs this month after he checks with the Methodist Church to ask where they ordered their sign. He looked one sign agency, but they didn't offer signs in the size that the Common Council agreed upon.

Debbie Hill asked if anyone had thought about putting pamphlets into the hotels to let people know about our Sunday worship services. Marie suggested that it would only take a phone call to each hotel to let them know the information necessary to post for visitors to see.

e) Valet parking – There need to be more announcements regarding the valet parking so that individuals know that it is available. A sign will be posted by the street as to where people are to drive their car in to get this service.

f) Condition of the church – The terra cotta is falling off the front of the church and the huge cost of repair quoted earlier and a course of action was discussed.

Following this information, it led us to discuss the fact that the front doors need to be resealed and that there is a hole in the wall in the right hand vestibule in the front of the church as you are heading out onto Maple Street. Kathie asked if we can hang one of our banners over the hole until we can get the wall fixed. Kathie also asked if everyone liked the 175th anniversary banner and if so, will check to see if it is weatherproof in case the church would like to hang it outside to announce that we are still here.

#### 10. Old Business:

Kathie thanked everyone for their support in helping her to make the church's anniversary party a success.

Caspar mentioned that the "first flight" of the recent discussion series that has been going on in Ken Gnade's living room on Wednesday nights is coming to a close tomorrow. The "second flight" will start on May 6th and will continue every Wednesday for 7 weeks. The "third flight" will start sometime in the fall. In the meantime, Caspar is starting the "first flight" all over again for those that have missed it but it will take place on Thursdays here at church starting on May 7th. The "second flight" will start in the summer and then the "third flight" will take place with the first group when they start theirs in the fall. Discussions usually go for approximately 1 ½ hours.

Caspar is thinking of starting a similar series in the summer entitled "Jesus in the Age of Empire."

#### 11. New Business:

Kathie challenged all of us to keep thinking about what we can do to bring more people into the church and to reach out beyond these walls.

Whether there will be any Vacation Bible School this summer was brought up and Kathie said that this has not been mentioned in Christian Ed. She thinks that it could be a possibility if she can find interested individuals in running the program. Tegan voiced interest in helping, and Kathie asked for others to let her know if they are also interested.

Shirley mentioned that the church store is willing to sponsor a breakfast if we can get Joel Hawthorne interested in coming back to preach one Sunday in the future.

The church has a new revamped web site which is [www.firstbaptistglensfalls.org](http://www.firstbaptistglensfalls.org). The old web address will still work but it will shoot you into the web under the new address.

There was no other new business discussed except that Caspar actually cleaned his desk! How he did it remains a mystery.

Debbie made a motion that the meeting be adjourned and Clara seconded the motion.

The next meeting will be May 12th at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Jones