

MINUTES OF THE DIACONATE
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GLENS FALLS
JUNE 9, 2009, 7:00 PM

In Attendance: Caspar Green, Nancy Holmes, Julia Farenell, Peg Moody, Clara LeBarron, Shirley Clark, Bob Addison, Tegan Whiting, Tammy Jones and Debbie Hill.

1. Call to Order: In the absence of both Kathie McCoy and Marie Ross, Tammy headed up the meeting and Caspar led the group in prayer. Ron Kroohn, Caryl Eckler and Meg Shuler were recognized as tonight's guests to this meeting representing our choir.

2. Approval of the Minutes: The minutes were reviewed individually and will be entered as printed.

3. Reports:

A. Music Team: Meg reported that what is known as the Music Committee is basically non-functional at this time and have not had any meetings with the Worship Team. This team consists of Ken Gnade, Caryl Eckler, Meg Shuler, Debbie Hill, Beverly Whiting and Ron Kroohn. Meg stated that there have been some complaints from the congregation that they can't hear the choir and/or can't understand the words being sung. It is questioned if part of the problem is that the pulpit stands in the way of where the choir stands to sing during worship. We currently have 10-15 choir members but not all show up every time. Ron stated that it is difficult to plan the music in that the choir attendees may change in number at any moment for any given practice session or for any scheduled Sunday service. Some of our current music calls for a larger choir than we have.

The Music Team has to get volunteers to get together to go through our current music and sort it out and to dispense with any music that has been photocopied in the past. Peg and Nancy have offered to help with this activity and it was suggested to ask Betsy Addison if she would like to be involved. Caspar made the suggestion that the music be sorted into two piles. One pile would be music that the choir cannot do in its present state. The second pile would be music that we can currently do. Further, this pile should be sorted into themes. Gaps might appear in the music that is needed for our services and a list can be made up for them to bring back to the Deacons to obtain some money to purchase needed music for the future. They will report back to the Deacons in September to let us know what progress they have made and what their needs might be.

Ron asked if the church legally has the right to copy music for our use. Caspar stated that the church has a license to copy music to be printed in the bulletin for everyone in the congregation to sing. This does not cover choir music. A license for this is expensive and it would be cheaper to buy the music outright. Caspar has the right to download music, and copies of those songs can be made depending on the site that he downloads it from.

Ron is looking for suggestions for special music for summer services. There are currently 5-6 people on his list that have offered to perform. Tegan has offered to ask the youth personally for volunteers and will be the contact person for the youth for the summer.

The last Sunday that the choir will sing will be June 21st and Cynthia Ellinger will play the organ in Ron's absence.

B. Care Team: No one is in the hospital at this time. We currently have 3 shut-ins at The Pines, 3 in Pleasant Valley and 7 in Fort Hudson. Emily Towne is in The Oaks apartments. Kathie McCoy is home from the hospital following hip surgery and Edie Addison is going to have a hip replacement done at Saint Peter's soon.

C. Christian Ed. Team: There may not be many children around for Children's Sunday on the 14th. It has been difficult to get things organized but the children have picked out songs that they would like to have sung. Lindy Gooden is going to be away with the Girl Scout Troop but

Lee is going to do something with Silas and Hope for the service. Beverly Whiting has been trying to reach Lizzie and P.J. about singing and she has a skit planned for the Youth Group to perform. Autumn and Cameron will be the worship leaders. Caspar will fill in with a sermon if need be.

Graduation Sunday will be on the 28th and Autumn and Cameron will be graduating from high school this year. Scholarship forms have been found and will be distributed to them.

D. Mission Team: Not many individuals showed up for the dinner event that we had for Rick Barnes, a missionary from Mexico. It was discussed if we should offer to support his ministry. There are fewer missionaries now than before, and they are no longer guaranteed a minimum salary and are made to raise their own funds. A total of \$500.00 was collected between the dinner on Saturday night and the Sunday service the next day and if we were to send it in to his ministry during the month of June, the International Ministries would match our amount. Nancy made the motion that we support the ministries of Rick Barnes in Mexico and Shirley seconded it. All were in favor. As a form of continuing support, we could possibly designate one month for Rick, and then pick one of our other missionaries (Chettis or the Davidsons) that we have supported in the past during a different month so that they are not forgotten.

A question was raised as to whether there were any plans in the works to organize a mission trip to Mexico. There are 4-5 of our youth interested in going as well as Beverly. Caspar will call and see how long a trip there might last and just what he might ask individual volunteers to do. Passports would be required and should be obtained way in advance.

Julia reported on the schedule for Mission Moments. She has received a form for the ABC/NYS regional offering. At this time there is nothing planned for July, August was set for the missionaries, and in September Julia will do Community Action. For this she will call them and get a list of what they might need and will put food up front to remind people to bring some in for Community Action. The rest of this year's schedule for Mission Moments is as follows at this time: October: World Missions, November: American Bible Society, December: Retired Missionaries, and Christmas Eve: The Cameron Center.

E. Worship Team: In terms of advertising, the radio spots purchased by the church are supposed to have started last week. Right now we have three recorded. One gives the time of service, one tells about our 175 years of serving the community and one announces Caspar's video discussion series to begin on July 18th at 7pm. We can have up to five different bits of information recorded that can run at any given time and can be switched out. Debbie asked about T.V. advertising and if it was still free on a certain channel. That would be our next stage of attack if needed. Shane is going to rearrange the visitor cards for the pew and try to see if he can squeeze "How did you hear about our church?" on the form that he already has on his computer. The church street signs to be at the seven entrances of the city will be red and white and will hopefully be installed soon.

The summer service schedule will remain the same as the service occurs now, since that is what is being advertised on the radio. Shirley is very concerned with the problems that she has been having with ushers and is even more concerned about the summer months. She will have to rebuild new teams of ushers to see if she can get a reliable help. Peg has offered to help out this July and Tammy and Bill Jones will help in August. The Worship Team has a problem getting individuals willing to be worship leaders and are very interested in getting the youth involved to help.

Nancy will come up with a list of July communion servers soon.

F. Ancillary Reports:

Open Door: Peg has a list for the Open Door and reported that not many meals were served at the last one.

Youth Group: Tegan reported that there were approximately 60-70 individuals at the Pathfinder retreat held recently. Ninety had been expected. The location worked out well. They might get the opportunity to meet a couple of times in the summer.

Fellowship Committee: This committee consists of Wanda Haverly as the head, and includes Shirley and Doug and Sandy Stone, and accepts help offered by Peg and Nancy if needed. They pulled together quickly for the Rick Barnes dinner event and things went well. They feel that they can function together well in the future and with few problems, providing they have advance notice of an upcoming event.

G. Board of Trustees: Dave Fisher and Bill Jones have made arrangements to work on the church repairs this week to include things such as installing platform rails, restraining the front doors, replacing floor tiles, replacing lightbulbs and drop ceiling tiles in the fellowship hall, and doing electrical work, etc. The stone work on the church has not been addressed as yet.

It has been arranged to have the grounds people come here every other week instead of weekly.

There will be a new system for borrowing the church's tent for individual use. There will now be a sheet that has to be signed before the tent can leave the church so that we know where it is at any given time.

4. Old Business: A question was raised as to what other events are planned for our church's anniversary year. Caspar has not heard of anything more about Jon Hildreth's presentation he has been working on for this year. Kathie McCoy has something on the Hiroshima Peace Tour and Caspar said that the church store has offered to sponsor a breakfast sometime. Caspar has not contacted any past ministers to come back to preach yet due to the fact that we have not chosen a date for that event. We discussed a few dates and decided on the long weekend of October 10-12 to ask them to return for a visit. If possible it would be nice to have a church supper for everyone that weekend.

5. New Business: Concerts begin in City Park on June 29th and run until August 24th. Our plan to offer desserts of strawberry shortcake and ice cream for a donation needs to be further organized. It was decided that set up should be at 6:30 and clean up should be completed by 8:30. Someone will check with Dave Fisher about buying ice cream from Dobert's Dairy, and Stewart's will be asked for donations. Caspar stated that he can get ice cream using the Pastor's discretionary fund. A sample grid was presented that will be used as a sign up sheet in the form of a chart dividing tasks according to the concert dates. Individuals will be able to sign up for advertising, set up, supplies, food, servers, and clean up. Caspar will put boxes on the sample grid around the tasks and it will be posted for people to start signing. Once the food and the supplies are purchased, the individual signing up for set up will be informed as to where to find everything. The clean up crew will know where everything needs to be put away so that it will be ready for the following week. For advertising, it was felt that placing a sign on the grass across from the Queensbury Hotel is a good idea. Half sheet flyers will be made up to pass out in the crowd by someone wearing a sandwich board. It was suggested that a picture taken during the first event should be sent to the *Post-Star* to help us get more coverage.

6. Adjournment: There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45. There will be no meeting in July and the next meeting will be on August 11th at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Tammy Jones