

Minutes for Deacons Meeting, February 10, 2019

Sign in and Fellowship: 6:15 – 6:30

Call Meeting to Order: 6:30 - Marc Walley

Opening Prayer – Dr. Head

Welcome and Opening Remarks – Marc Walley

- **January 2019 Minutes Approval** – Minutes were approved as distributed.
- **Thoughts on Beyond Our Walls**

Minister Update – Logan Carpenter

Logan gave an update on what he is doing and what his job entails. There are two main areas that he is focusing on.

- Getting people plugged in
- Growing members faith

Some specific items Logan is doing.

- New Comer's breakfast – informal time for people new to the church to find out about the church and ways they can get involved. The first breakfast is scheduled for February 17 and the different ministers will drop in as they are able. Logan noted it takes younger people 6 to 12 months to join a church whereas older generations have a much shorter timeline when deciding to join a church. Younger generation is looking for ways to meet and connect.
- Want to find ways to get current members and attendees connected. Logan has met people who are on the fringe of the congregation, come on Sunday and that is pretty much the extent of their involvement. Logan is now the point person on staff for all visitors. Deacon of the week should contact any visitors who leave cards in offering plate but leave the cards for Logan. Logan will be making contact with these people as well.
- Avenues to grow in Faith. Everyone to belong somewhere, be known and loved at and by Church. Want time at Church to be robust and energetic when members are here.
- Offer training opportunities. In August had a SS teacher workshop, well received by the teachers who attended.
- Wednesday nights. Looking for ways to grow people who come, have some ideas in the works for new programs.
- Where God is at work in the Church. We want to find out and meet Him there. The goal is for us all to grow in our Christ likeness. A couple of programs that are going on in this vein.
 - Men's mentoring program
 - Women's Bible study

- Looking at forming an Ad Hoc committee for input on strategy and direction members would like.

Dr. Head's comments

Dr. Head addressed change in procedure for Deacon of Week to present the offertory prayer. Staff want the DOW to come up on the organ side as the offertory hymn begins. The DOW will stand in front of Brian's chair or other empty chair on the organ side. When the offertory hymn ends, the DOW and Brian will exchange places at the podium.

Steve Baker – Family Promise

Steve Baker presented an overview of the Family Promise program the Church is beginning to get involved with. First clarification based on congregation questions, the guests won't stay at your personal home.

- Family Promise is a national organization started in 1986. Their website provides good information on what they are and what they do. They have over 200 affiliates around the country with over 180,000 volunteers, from all faith based organizations. Not all organizations are Christian.
- F.P. North Fulton/Dekalb will be our affiliate. It was started in 2011 and 10 of the 11 current churches have been involved since inception in 2011. The Churches Steve visited are still enthusiastic about serving in the program.
- Each church hosts for one week each quarter. The guests are families who are situationally homeless, not chronic homeless. Each family is screened by the director of F.P. for.
 - Criminal background
 - Drug and/or alcohol issues
 - Have to go through 2 interviews as well
- The number of people/families accepted into the program is very small due to the strict screening process. During their stay, the families don't pay for food or rent for the 90 day term. They focus on getting help with skills such as resume prep, computer literacy, etc.
- When we host for our week. Each family will have their own room, currently looking at using the education building to convert to rooms.
 - Guests arrive on Sunday and leave the following Sunday
 - We make an evening meal on Sunday
 - Guests leaving each morning from FBCR
 - Go to work if they are employed
 - Daycenter for non-working guests/children in summer
 - School for children
- Will need approximately 8 volunteers per day, around 80 total for week.
 - Male and female host for overnight. Will have their own room(s) but bring their own linens.
 - Evening hosts approximately 4pm to 9pm
 - Meal prep
 - Saturday – will need hosts for the entire day

- Sunday – need help to break down or set up. The beds will be delivered from Family Promise.
- Laundry – Families are responsible for their own laundry, we will provide linens and towels.
- Until our facilities have been renovated, we will be using the Presbyterian showers and laundry.
- We do not provide transportation, there is a strict policy from Family Promise of what we (Church) can and cannot do.
- Guests may not leave without children, we are not babysitters.
- They have a curfew of when they have to be in rooms. The guests will also be restricted as to where in the Church they may be, they will not have free range.

Some items that will be provided by FBCR according to Charles Fuller.

- Sheets, blankets and towels (all linens and towels should be white)
- Lamp(s)
- Nightstand
- Chair – preferably comfortable to sit, read, etc.
- Want to keep parity with other churches on what we provide.

FBCR will be asking for donations of cash not donated goods. Easier to purchase exactly what we need as opposed to sorting through goods and trying to determine if it works or not and then having to dispose of excess. We are not providing TV in rooms, there will be common area with TV, snacks, games etc. According to Steve, this should not be a very expensive proposition cash wise, roughly \$2,000.

The Church's G/L insurance covers anyone on the property.

We will be having information and training sessions for members who are interested and want to volunteer.

Prayer Requests and Closing Prayer – Arnold Eaves

Service Team Breakouts – all are dismissed once individual teams have completed discussions.