

Highlights of First Baptist Church Board Meeting March 8, 2008

Present: Bryan Black, Dee Krumwiede, Richard March, Rob McGinnis, Rod Maurer, Dave Reed, Jef Riley, Tim Swigart and Pastor Nate Whiteside, Youth Pastor Russ Paul, Children's Pastor Nichole Paul

Absent: Charles Davis, Brent Erickson, Craig Hunter and Matt Solverson

Pastor Nate led us in prayer to start the meeting. We prayed especially for Jim Johnson for his recent illness. Pastor Nate asked someone to read to us from 1 Timothy 3:3, it speaks to us about characteristics that are important for those who are in elder positions. We also reviewed Titus 1:7, Galatians 5:23 for the fruit of the Spirit, Proverbs 31:4-7, which talks about correctly using strong drink. This is further explained in Proverbs 21:17 which tells us not to abuse strong drink. In Amos 4:1 we were given a more balanced message. Paul writes to Timothy in 1 Timothy 5:23 that you should use wine to settle your stomach. In 1 Corinthians 5:11 warns us about being addicted to wine, use self-control.

Pastor Nate brought up these verses to us to help us to learn about how to be more discerning. There are opportunities that come up will come up that will require us to be looking at more than one aspect of what we see.

Pastor Nate introduced an idea for a retreat for the Board, one idea was April 18th and 19th for an overnight retreat.

The Board highlights from February 23rd were read aloud. One correction that needs to be made is that the contract with Waste Management actually ends in September 2009. Bryan Black has spoken with Farm Credit, they pay 50% of the electricity for the pump which amounts to \$60.00 per year for their half.

Pastor Nate has spoken with Huntington University, Moody Bible Institute, Trinity International University, Emmaus College, Edgewood College and Northwestern College about music, youth and children Pastor internship possibilities.

Pastor Nate commented on his trip tomorrow and March 30th to Josh Montague's church and Jeff Lovell's church on those respective dates. Pastor Russ will preach tomorrow and on the 30th Tim Swigart will be preaching. This Wednesday the Lenten ecumenical service will be held at the United Church of Christ. Dee Krumwiede inquired about Pastor Mario from the Hispanic church in the old First Baptist Church building. Pastor Nate has spoken with Pastor Mario and his feeling was that his English language wasn't sufficient for a sermon. Pastor Nate and Pastor Mario have been conversing frequently about the opportunity to work together. Maundy Thursday is the 20th of March at 8pm.

We discussed the idea of having a breakfast on Easter morning to replace the normal Sunday school classes. The youth group has in the past done a breakfast for a fundraiser but they are not planing on doing it this year. Several of the Board were on the last breakfast group and we felt this would be a good opportunity to reach out to bring people in to church.

The National Day of Prayer was held here yesterday, March 7th. No one here had any comments to provide about that event.

Andy and Stephanie Johnston have initiated a homeless shelter. They've been in touch with Pastor Nate about this new ecumenical ministry and they are looking for volunteers and donations for the ministry.

Pastor Nate commented about the fact that the CAP office downtown also has a food pantry. The new Grace Lutheran Church was unaware we had a food pantry here, we also found out that the Holy Rosary Church also has intermittent food pantry. The Salvation Army is available for assistance also. Dee Krumwiede inquired about the resources for the Community of Churches food pantry, which is held here for disbursement. In the past if we were running low on resources we have put out a grocery cart for donation at Piggly Wiggly Supermarket, formerly Dick's Supermarket.

The Darlington community of churches is planning a meeting April 7th for a vacation bible school class. Pastor Nate was asked if we would participate this year. Pastor Nate and Children's Pastor Nichole Paul will discuss the idea.

Dave Reed commented on our original plan to follow-up with Russ Paul's TaeKwon-Do classes. Everyone at this meeting felt the use of the gymnasium was going well and everyone felt we should continue. A question came up about the original plan that Russ would provide a self-defense class for Women for their protection. This would be a free class for Women who are living alone, headed off to college or just feel they need to learn how to protect themselves if they are finding themselves in situations where they might be in danger. Several questions came up about how to present the class, the focus of the class, how long it should last, what capabilities would be taught. The thought pattern was that this would be provided to help Women get away from an attacker.

Pastor Nate brought up the idea of a photo ministry. Lynn Howery has a new camera, which she would volunteer to participate in taking pictures. Rod Maurer commented on creation of an official photo ministry. Rod felt we should announce that we have an official ministry and that if anyone does not want their photos taken for use on our website they should let us be aware. We discussed the ministry fair we have had in the past, when it was held, what success we had or didn't have. It's very important for each of the members in leadership of this church to emphasize the importance of being involved in ministry efforts. When we serve God we put Him first in all things.

Christal Swigart came in today to give us a demonstration on the website and answer any questions related to use of the site. The wireless connection wasn't cooperating and we were unable to bring up the site. Christal gave us some options for adding to the website, we could add the weekly announcements, missionary blog site links, our Sunday sermons will be eventually added. Christal inquired about adding the e-mail address for prayer requests. A suggestion was made to us an alias address instead of using the personal e-mail address of the person who forwards for the prayer chain. Questions came up about security for the website, waivers for parents to sign when we want to put children's pictures on the site. Christal is using pdf files to replace Word documents to prevent anyone for altering information on the website, she is also able to get us a waiver form that we could provide for parents.

We reviewed the financial information sent to us by Shelly Black. We are under-budget on some things and over-budget on other areas. We need to keep the congregation aware of the continuing needs. The purpose of tithing is to give back to God from what he has give to us to show our desire for Him.

Pastor Russ brought up the idea of renting the 15-passenger van versus the idea of borrowing a personal van(s) from people. The larger van may be more expensive to use while the smaller size van(s) would require two vehicles to be driven. The funds to reserve the van are not currently available. Rod Maurer inquired about associated costs for using the one larger vehicle versus the two smaller vehicles. We have the use of Charles and Sharon Davis' van already and would need to find a second van.

The swatch samples we had created at Lands' End Business Outfitter were passed around during the meeting. Everyone was in agreement that the designs look very good. The next step will be to sign the authorization forms and then we can create the electronic store, which will allow members to purchase individual shirts, jackets and other items. The screen print design for My Friends House will be reviewed by Children's Pastor Nichole Paul to verify the artwork is correct prior to development of a design at Lands' End Business Outfitters.

We would like to publicly thank Christal Swigart for her work on creation and maintenance of the First Baptist Church website. It's an excellent site and we look forward to more people accessing this information both here in Darlington by member and by other who are curious about our church.

Respectfully,

Jef Riley

Jef Riley-Board Member