

Highlights of First Baptist Church Board Meeting January 24, 2008

Present: Bryan Black, Brent Erickson, Craig Hunter, Rod Maurer, Dave Reed, Jef Riley, Matt Singer, Matt Solverson, Tim Swigart, Pastor Nate Whiteside and Russ Paul Youth Pastor

Absent: Charles Davis, Dee Krumwiede, Richard March

Pastor Nate started out with Matthew 17:1-13. We discussed the significance of the event, why only certain disciples were chosen, what was said and the results of all that happened. Nate commented that Peter, James and John were the leaders of the group, received more persecution than the rest of the disciples. We discussed the significance of Moses and Elijah's appearance at the transfiguration. Both Moses and Elijah had important moments in the Bible, sometimes paralleling activities that Jesus would later do in the New Testament.

In Revelation, there are two prophets that appear to announce God's coming wrath for those who don't receive him as Lord and Savior. We discussed why only three of the disciples were present at this miracle; they were the ones who were most devoted to Jesus Christ and understood best who He really was. Why didn't the disciples die when they saw Jesus? One suggestion is that God only revealed a bit of His glory for the disciples to see, not enough to kill them as would have happened to Moses if he had seen God's full glory in the Old Testament.

Pastor Nate asked for any prayer requests or praise offerings. Craig Hunter said My Friends House went to a movie and they had 103 kids that went, they had to request two busses to transport everyone. Pastor Russ told us how great the event was and how happy and excited the kids were about the activity. Brent Erickson commented that the Personnel Committee has received 18 resumes. Matt Singer had a car accident this week at McDonald's intersection. Matt is okay but the other driver was in the hospital overnight.

We prayed for those who need to be employed or more fully employed. Lafayette County seems to be the least affected. Matt Solverson said we need to pray about the abortion clinic that would be located next to Meriter Hospital in Madison. During the early Christian years the Romans would just expose unwanted babies, just leaving them out in the open, left to whatever would happen. Maybe we will see a resurgence of Christians offering to take in unwanted babies. We prayed for Ed Swales and Gordy Rees.

Moderator Tim Swigart asked for a report from the Personnel Committee. Brent Erickson reported 18 people applied. The first interview is January 28, second round is February 11th and the last round of interviewing will occur on February 18th.

Next on the agenda is formation of sub-committees. Tim commented that we need to put an emphasis on our mission; Reach the Lost and Teach the Found. These are the main topics of Pastor Nate's sermons to incorporate this into our thinking. By creating sub-committees we will be able to tackle issues that could be discussed and then a motion brought to the meeting to help reduce the time spent on the Saturday Board meeting. By creating these sub-committees we would also have the opportunity for greater discussion in smaller groups that what could be accomplished in a much larger group which requires more time during our Saturday meeting. Pastor Nate commented that as Board leaders we would have the ability in our sub-committees to have greater oversight capability of our 35 ministries.

Each of the Board members will have two to three ministry leader contacts which need to be engaged with their ministry leader on a regular basis; at least monthly, more often if needed. This will help build unity within our church and the various ministries.

We discussed the importance and value of being a member; it lessens the importance of being a member when people don't take membership responsibilities seriously. Matt Singer will take Rob McGinnis Shepherd list. A question came up about what to do about the age that is high school graduate or older. These people may have not actually applied for membership. Pastor Russ commented on parent's involvement in the kid's lives if they are between 16 and 18 years of age. Some of them are very involved in the church activities and consider themselves to have been members by their service. Every person desiring to become a member has to submit their request to either a Board member or one of our Pastoral staff and then attend the membership introductory classes' plus sign a commitment statement to First Baptist Church of Darlington that they agree with our constitution and will be an active member in our church.

We discussed how Russ could create a stronger relationship with these student's parents by involving each of them to come to our introductory membership classes so they are aware of what is involved in membership and the commitment that is expected. This is also their first step into a larger world as someday they will be leaving their parents homes and become married to their spouse. Commitment is a learned process and a future marriage partner would want to know that their spouse is committed to them because of past experiences with the decision for commitment to something larger than themselves.

We discussed the issue with the HOLD button being pushed on for the thermostats which is causing us extra money when the heat is running with no one in the building. We hope to remedy this by putting up a sign at each thermostat to not push HOLD and with directions on what buttons to push for temporary heat.

Pastor Nate will make an announcement tomorrow about their GLBC need for a \$500.00 gift to help them offset their 2008 expenses. Each church in the GLBC is being requested to give this amount. They've had to let a full-time person go to cut expenses, Dr. Perry took a 10% pay cut in his salary. Bryan Black commented that last year mission giving was down and that we unintentionally shorted them \$500.00.

Pastor Russ said the youth mission trip will be the first week in August, this is a much lower cost mission trip, and they will be at the Crow Indian Reservation in Montana. Pastor Nate noted that Russ and Nichole Paul will be in Minneapolis, February 26 and 27th.

On January 30th, Pastor Nate, Rod Maurer, Matt Solverson and Jef Riley will be headed to Wausau to a Re-Tooling Conference that is put on by the GLBC. This will be a meeting to tell us more about what will happen when we put on the full session in the future.

Respectfully,

Jef Riley

Jef Riley-Board Member