

Highlights of First Baptist Church Board Meeting November 15, 2008

Present: Bryan Black, Charles Davis, Craig Hunter, Dee Krumwiede, Rob McGinnis, Rod Maurer, Dave Reed, Jef Riley, Matt Solverson, Pastor Nate Whiteside and Russ Paul Youth Pastor

Absent: Brent Erickson, Richard March and Tim Swigart

Pastor Nate gave us a question and answer session to test our Bible knowledge. After testing our knowledge and awakening our minds we moved into a discussion on to the book we have read "The Five Dysfunctions of a Team". Pastor Nate brought up accountability for the study. We are each accountable to ourselves, our teammates and to God. In today's world quite often people are not being held accountable for their behavior, only the results of their actions-did they make the grade?

Many years ago people did more to call each other to account when their behavior didn't match up with acceptable standards. We discussed how it's difficult to correct someone else's behavior when we have also have things that we do not do that we should do. Pastor Nate shared a story of when he was a younger Pastor and it was difficult for him to hold others accountable. Nate was advised by a Board member that he was empowered by his position to hold others accountable. We are all empowered to call others on their behavior when it is necessary.

Pastor Nate asked for our prayer requests. He notified us that Ed Swales has received good news that his tumors have disappeared. There is consideration of a community wide prayer service for all of the churches at a neutral location. There has been an interview about the Food Pantry by the Republican Journal. There will be a fund-raiser for the Food Pantry by United Ministries of Lafayette County where they will distribute containers at various places in Darlington. There is an upcoming interview coming for My Friends House from the paper. The Cornerstone Christian School has had a recent interview from the paper.

Bryan Black reported that we purchased a projector for use in the gym so we don't have to take the one down from the sanctuary. It was purchased for \$600.00 on eBay. Pastor Russ reported that Nelson Kari had contacted him for a request to do a brat sale for support of the youth. He suggested this could be held in the small park by bridge downtown. He also requested to perform the baptism tomorrow for Isaiah Gobel.

Russ distributed a description of his youth ministry activity events. Russ explained how the various activities are designed, the focus and depth of the activity. There are three levels with Level 1 being the most attended and with the least of the three levels of discussion. Level 2 still has entertaining activities, it is potentially a smaller group and more learning and discussion is involved. Level 3 is the smallest group which consists of people who are dedicated to becoming part of a mission trip. They participate in a Tuesday morning learning time at 6:30 AM. This is the group that learns the most and is the most committed to further opportunities for Christ.

Russ commented that he has a need for small group leaders. This is a level 3 activity which requires commitment on the part of the adult leader. The leader of a small group needs to be involved with the youth on more than one level. The leader must be a part of the larger group activities and be willing to show the youth that they are able to be committed.

Russ said the youth ministry has changed since the early days when he was involved. At that time we had more volunteers and less money. Now we have more money and fewer volunteers. If we are going to have fewer volunteers we do need to have more money to support renting a large van or a bus to make it possible to do the activities. Russ laid out an excellent proposal for the expected costs for each type of activity.

The level 2 group is usually a smaller group, with more studies and the possibility of using a few volunteers to drive the group to an event to cut costs.

Pastor Russ has great appreciation for his wife Nichole who has allowed him to take care of his ministerial duties with the youth even when it runs late into the night. This has allowed Russ to build bridges and develop trust with the youth so that they open up to him. Dave Reed commented that we need to keep both Russ and Nichole in prayer. We all gave Russ our heartfelt commendations and the work that he and Nichole are part of.

Financial Officer, Shelly Black presented us with the budget information. Shelly has shown us the report which differs from previous years since all of the financial information is now being processed by one person. Shelly commented, "We've found that in the youth costs we've actually had net expenses of much less money used than what our gross costs were. This is due to offerings for the youth ministry and reimbursements from the youth themselves which has helped to offset those expenses we expected."

We discussed the mission designation. Currently we do not designate for any mission assistance except for our two church plants and our congregational assistance fund. Everything else has to be marked by the person who gives the gift exactly where it needs to be sent. If a check is marked MISSIONS then it is divided up between the missions we have identified that we give to, the amount is 7% per each missionary approved.

We discussed the current mortgage on the church. Shelly will confirm what we are required to pay for principal payment this year, plus interest.

We will have openings to vote on this year for the Board of Administrators, Rob McGinnis is moving to Eagle, Colorado, Bryan Black is up for nomination on a one-year term and Jef Riley is up for nomination for another 3-year term. A question was brought up about term limits or whether we should have a one year break. We haven't had any term limits in the past and it's not in our constitution.

Respectfully,

Jef Riley

Jef Riley-Board Member