

Elder Board Meeting Minutes

December 13, 2009

Members Present: Ken Skillman, Bob Fraga, Steve Feazel, Steve Lloyd, Sam Allen, Pastor Dave Bruns, Kent Rasmussen, Bud Lang (Chair)

Opening Prayer & Devotion – Pastor Dave Bruns

- Pastor Dave led devotions using Ephesians 4:26 as the text. Pastor Dave emphasized the importance of relationships and the fact that healthy relationships need to keep “short accounts”. He also stressed that forgiveness is key to freedom in Christ.

Pastor Dave briefly discussed the upcoming Christmas party for Elders and their wives.

Approval of November 8, 2009 meeting minutes – Minutes were approved following MSC by Bob Fraga and Sam Allen.

New Business

1. Pastor Dave Bruns indicated that pastors and staff agreed to attend Elder meetings with each staff member assigned a specific month of the year to attend. Pastor Dave handed out a schedule indicating when each staff members would attend.
 - A. Kent Rasmussen suggested that we meet periodically with the Governing Board.
 - B. Bob Fraga suggested we meet with the Governing Board and Deacon’s at the Springs of Living Water. Bud Lang indicated that he would follow-up on this suggestion.
2. Pastor Ryan Wright attended the meeting and discussed a variety of issues:
 - A. He mentioned that the high school ministry is based upon God’s Word.
 - B. He discussed the excellent leadership team that assists with the High School ministry.
 - C. The theme for this year’s high school outreach is “Boot Camp –Basics of the Faith”.
 - D. Pastor Ryan emphasized the fact that much spiritual fruit has occurred within the high school students. He specifically mentioned Josh Gillander who leads a weekly Bible study on campus. Each week between 12-24 students attend the on campus study.
 - E. When asked about his relationship with local school officials, Ryan responded that it was both good and bad. In general doors are closed to his involvement with on campus activities but the school is quick to call and request his assistance during times of crisis (such as suicide). Pastor Ryan and his staff do participate on campus in a serving role such as assisting with track meets, coaching basketball, etc.

- F. Pastor Ryan requested that we pray for the high school students and in particular that they be obedient to God's word and remain real followers of Christ. The Elders then had the privilege of praying for Pastor Ryan, his family and his ministry.

3. Pastor Dave Bruns mentioned that he had met with Pastor Trevor and Jim Dally regarding how to best help church visitors get assimilated into the life of the church. They discussed the possibility of developing a team of couples who would initially visit first time church visitors. Elder's would then be asked to follow-up and assist with the assimilation process. The goal is to create disciples. Pastor Dave emphasized that this program is still a work in progress and at some point training would be provided to the Elders.
 - A. Pastor Dave mentioned that thus far 51 cords of wood have been delivered to those in need. We have an active wood ministry and they are always looking for sources of wood. In addition, the church is donating up to 15 bags of groceries each day to Paradise residents. The Awakening ministry recently collected and donated 300 lbs. of groceries to the church.
 - B. Pastor Dave briefly discussed two men who were being considered for appointments to the Elder board.

4. Bud Lang requested that members of the Elder board choose a month to present the opening devotion for Elder meetings. Each Elder was assigned a month for which they have the privilege of presenting a brief devotion.

Elders Reports:

1. Special populations and prayer – Kent Rasmussen

Kent expressed his concerns about how best to deal with special populations who attend Sunday services and whether or not they might be disruptive to Pastoral Staff. Kent also initiated discussion about how to best communicate that those in need of prayer have indeed been visited and received prayer. Pastor Dave indicated that Pastoral staff is always on duty to visit and pray for those in need. Bud Lang mentioned that he will attempt to insure that all Elders are notified when visitation has taken place.

2. Sam Allen

Sam mentioned that he had received several calls that expressed concern over the recent Christmas play presented at the church. Those who called felt that since the play did not emphasize a Christian theme that it should not have been presented in the church. The Elders felt that the event is a "bridge building" activity and was therefore appropriate. One person who attended the play came to church the following Sunday and accepted Christ into their life.

3. Steve Lloyd – Membership

Steve mentioned that new member's classes will be held on January 10th and 17th. Elders should plan on attending the January 17th session in order to interview the candidates for membership.

4. Steve Feazel – Communion

Steve briefly discussed communion and indicated that he would continue to rely upon the Elders to assist with serving communion. Steve reported that several people expressed their appreciation for being a part of the communion ministry.

5. A general discussion was held about the following topics:

- a. Kent Rasmussen suggested that Pastors consider having an open "mic" once a quarter to allow for questions to be asked and/or praises given during the Sunday service.
- b. It was also suggested that we continue with the "raised my hand" table that is currently being used during the Sunday services.

Pastor Dave discussed Chapter I from the book Biblical Eldership.

The meeting was closed in Prayer for various church family needs and concerns.

Respectfully submitted, Steve Feazel, acting secretary.

Next meeting is January 10th, 2010