

DEACONS MEETING MINUTES

October 17, 2022

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING PRAYER

Chair Cliff Vicar called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

DEVOTION

Bill English began with “I’m not a worrier, but the world today offers so much to worry about. We have so many opportunities to give love one more chance.” Our culture is tipping hard toward secular humanism. One simple question is what do you believe? If I arrive here from another culture, country could I explain our faith, could you confidently put into words. Could you quote scripture to back up what you believe. Young Adults are leaving our churches and are unable to put into words their belief, they are trying to navigate this culture. The core tenants of their faith are being buried and Christianity is the target. This calls for endurance and faithfulness. When we are faced with decisions about how to deal with all the things in society today, we need to go back to basics. The Apostles Creed, Great Commission, Love God and your neighbor as yourself, is very much what I believe. I encourage you to rediscover what we believe.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

PASTOR UPDATE

Dr. Hood reviewed and encouraged everyone to participate in the Service opportunities that are coming up. The Guatemala Packing Event will give everyone a chance to work alongside all those in our church, community and several students from ETSU. October 30th will be combined service in the sanctuary at 10:30 and Sunday School starting at 9:00. We will have lunch together after the service. There is continued discussion about the Gathering Service with church leaders.

Dr. Davis discussed Personnel adjustments among the staff with Timmy Graham reassigned to the position of Director of Media Services. He also reported on the new Church Directory. There has been small growth in Sunday School and we are still on target for our goal of 300. DNA groups are going well, we have strong groups.

Dr. Davis presented the Ministry Plan for 2023. He thanked the budget committee for their work on the Ministry Plan stating “We talked about ministry and not just dollars.” He described the Options for mission giving. There will be a 3 percent cost of living salary increase. We have decreased our utilities, telephone expense and other items by being more efficient in use. The Custodial staff has done an amazing job helping decrease expenses on supplies. This Ministry plan represents 0.6% increase.

Chair Cliff Vicars lead in a discussion of setting a Lord’s Day vote. Ministry plans will be out on October 30th, and the vote will take place on November 6th. Jeff Keller made a motion to approve the Lord’s Day vote, seconded by, Jon Cardwell.

Chair Cliff Vicars reported that Deacon nominations are in process, there will be more updates as we continue the calls. There was discussion about the community care box, we have several people wanting to participate, Debbie Taylor made a motion that we approve this project, seconded by Sheila Talley.

Dwight Treadway reviewed Deacon assignments and encourage someone to sign up for January devotion. There was a review of the prayer list and a time of prayer for those who are sick, have scheduled procedures, long-term illness, military and our church leaders and staff. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,
Donna Depew
Secretary