



Elders Meeting 7/17/17

Attendance

T. Perkins, A. Stafford , D. Dunnam, J. Roberson E. Meyers, E. Allen, H. Dean, M. Loolara, T. Thompson, A. Hunter

Opening Prayer

Bro Dale

I Financial Update

Mrs. Amy Hunter presented and reviewed the financials for the month of June.

- **General Fund** = \$439K, **Designated** = \$284K, **Disaster Relief** = \$451K, **ELC** = \$31K
 - Reviewed separate statement that listed all of the Disaster Relief monies to date including, Income, Expense Categories, Total Expense and Net Income.
- **Disaster Relief** – Statement as of
 - Total Balance as of 6/1/17 = \$476K
 - Total Month Donations = \$3K
 - Total Expenses = \$28K
 - Net Balance 6/30/17 = \$451
- **Church Month Expenses** = \$201K, Giving = \$183K , Variance = \$18K
- **Current Building Note Balance** – \$4,014,598
- Reviewed Monthly Bank Statements, P&L, Income Statement, as well as Offering Statement YTD.

II Devotion & Prayer

Ephesian 4:17-24

¹⁷This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of ^[d] the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, ¹⁸having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; ¹⁹who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

²⁰But you have not so learned Christ, ²¹if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: ²²that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, ²³and be renewed in the spirit of your

mind,²⁴ and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

- This was addressed to the Christian believers in Ephesus. Paul is addressing believers
 - The surrounding culture was worldly.
 - There is to be a distinction between the church (you) and the world.
 - Sometimes the Church tries to be like the world so that they can be relevant to the world they lose their distinction.
 - If you are lost on the road and you run across someone that is lost as well are you going to ask them for help? No. You are going to go to someone that does know where they are going.
 - Paul is saying: do as the Gentiles
1. **Put off the old man.** The way you used to conduct yourself. Requires something of us. Starts with reconciliation, then go in through a Sanctification process.
 - Be renewed in the spirit of your mind. A constant renewing. We have to be constantly renewing. An ongoing process.
 - Time in the word
 - Prayer
 - We must not become saturated with the things of this world.
 2. **Put on the new man** - We have to put on the new man and get rid of the old stuff, be cleansed and put on the new man.
 - We must never lose our distinction of who we are. We should not be haughty, arrogant. We've been given a tremendous gift.
 - It starts with the leaders or leadership. There is a greater level of accountability and responsibility.

III Budget Items

- **Senior Pastor Salary** – Bro Dale shared statistics – Nationwide averages (All Jobs – Sr. Pastors – All Church's). Also a list of statistics for Southern Baptist and Louisiana in particular. Salaries based on years of service and size of church (attendance). The information would be a package. 500-999 = \$95 - \$129, average \$109 – 150. Bro Dale to share the information to Bro Gerald on the PST to review.
- **Refinance of Loan** – Bro Dale met with Bryan Skelton with Whitney Bank last Monday. Provide P&L and Balance sheets for 2014, 2015, 2016 and YTD. Also the 3 last audit reports. Looking at a 10 year term. Looking at 4.6% now. We are currently at 4.5% with a balloon at 5 years. With the new load we would be looking at a balloon at 10 years. Current loan no need of a prepayment penalty. Will look at the BOZ as well and see if they will match. Whitney has no problem with us going back to BOZ. They are wanting to get us the best rate they can.

IV Facilities Update – Bro Andy

- **HVAC Issues / Education building** – experiencing massive condensation in one particular room. A large number of tiles are mildewing. Star will have their engineer come in and try to figure out and assess the situation. Could be the roof coating redo doing such a good job that it may be a dew point issue. We may the (2) Samaritans purse rooms taken off the system and run separately. Someone also mentioned that there was and issues with the door that leads from the gym.
- **Gym**
 - **Storage** – staff meeting discussion came up about the congestion in the gym area due to lack of storage area for equipment, supplies, excess carpet, high chairs, basketball goals, etc. Looking at revisiting building a storage building outside. Not looking to do anything inside due to sprinkler code. Bro Andy felt like they needed a 30 X 40 area.
 - **Gym Floors** – still an issue (future – \$50K)
 - **Sink Hole** – Bro. Andy mentioned that there is a sink hole area behind the gym building. Will be looking at that in the future.
 - **Big Cooler is out** – will more than likely will need to purchase another one. May be looking at relief funds on this project due to excess usage of the equipment during the past years with the relief efforts in the community.
- **Sewage Issue** – looking at putting a new aerator in the sewer system. Thinking \$1,000. Will be looking at this expense through the relief funds due to the ongoing usage as a result of our ongoing relief effort in the community.
- **Student Building** – pretty much done except for a few small items. Any future to the floor would cost \$30K.
- **Double wide trailer** - Looking for an inspection by DEQ, then hopeful that we can give Hebert the proceed letter. Bro Andy will update soon.
- **Main building** – doors mildewing, issues with mildew on the stucco as well. Will look at cleaning in the near future.
- **Sea Can Out Back** – has flooring issues from flood, buckling.
- **Cleaning Service** – August 1st finished with their service with us. There continues to be many areas within the church that have been neglected.

V Calendar of Events

- **August 13** – planning a special emphasis on the one year flood anniversary. Bro Tony has invited a number of dignitaries.
- **Lord's Supper** – we were understaffed from the Deacons this last AM Communion Service. Had 16 serving total but needed 10 - 12 on each side (20 to 24 total). Proposing communion twice a year in the AM and the rest of the time in the evening services. Dec 31st on Sunday AM and in the month of July (3rd Sunday) since we are not having evening services during the month of July.
- **Connection Room** – discussed tightening up the serving in this capacity. Making sure that we have 2 Elders in there each Sunday
 - Photos of new members – want to get a photo of new members. Will put a camera in the connections room for photos and the Elders will be responsible.
 - We will be including new members on the screen by the Welcome Center. Media Staff will come and get the camera and get the disc from the camera and upload.

VI Elder Candidates

- Discussed a number of candidates.
- Bro Dale expressed the need to have someone with financial experience.
- Bro. Tony has been having some initial conversations with folks just to get to know them better but wants to do a little more probing.

VII Pastor Search Update

- **Bro Ernie** – Started with 100 resume's and moved the list down three candidates. They have had all of the resumes' for a while but nothing really done until the 2nd PST started the process. Bro Ernie expressed that he believes that this is the man that God has brought them to. They have contacted all references, and all were positive. The candidate is very mission minded and likes to include the entire family on mission trips. They are scheduled to meet with him very soon. Bro Dale mentioned that there was a list of questions that the candidate sent in that Bro Tony was able to answer. The candidate then sent in a second set of questions (approximately 22) for review. A number of the questions came from the church questionnaire that GSBC responded to on a BAGBRA survey a number of years ago. There were discrepancies in the attendance and budget numbers that are currently being addressed by Bro Dale and Ms.

Amy. The discrepancies were from a number of years back that looked to be data entry mistakes.

VIII New Business

Sunday Night Leadership – Will be a normal Sunday night service but will be a 7 week study focused on biblical leadership. The emphasis is to begin training leaders in the church (kids, usher, any new ministries, etc.). We have given them the basic principles of biblical leadership. There will be a 30 – 40 min. study and will include hand out notes. Mike Davis will do some promotions in the near future.

Closing Prayer

Bro Hershel