

Minutes from Deacon Meeting –Unapproved
March 11, 2025

Deacon	Attend	Deacon	Attend
Anderson, Larry	P	Moberg, Steve	P
Cooper, Laura	P	Quinn, Andrea	P
Ell, Tom	P	Scheneman, Dan	P
Failing, Debbie	A	Smith, Dave	P
Lancaster, Mary	P		
Pastor Morefield, Michael	P		

V is
Virtual/Zoom

- Quorum (8) is established.
- Opening Prayer at 6:17 pm by Larry Anderson
- Minutes Approval: motioned to approve by Dave Smith and seconded by Laura Cooper.

Pastor's Report:

With regards to GEPC Rebranding:

- Rebrand Team: Graphic design completed, 2nd phase, including website and Signage, and the Strategic plan by Session will be unveiled in August. The font chosen is Larkin. A representation of the graphics was shown to the group including colors and icons.
- Michael presented his decision to change how we, at GEPC, administer communion. The Book of Order gives him, as Pastor, the authority; Michael will consult with Session. Michael offered:
 - Why: God's Word is the ultimate authority, that we are to worship as God instructs us.
 - His desire is to properly administer communion
 - Generally, the Reformed church does not practice intinction.
 - Per Scripture, the instruction is to eat and drink, separate and successive instruction. We are to pause between the elements, body and blood.
 - The visual picture is the body is separated from its blood, depicting death.

- Intinction symbolizes blood being drawn back into the body.
- Michael expressed his desire to more closely align with scripture.
- Lastly Michael offered the following regarding the Joint Sunday School and its topic:
 - All policies currently in place, will be submitted to Alliance Defending Freedom, and we will receive their counsel
 - Do we change our Bylaws, or
 - Change our Statement of Faith.

Coordinating:

- Steve offered that Nicole Moncada and Josiah Durfee are updating the “Child Protection Policy” which includes Bathroom policies.
- A request was sent to Property, from Aaron Kleinmeyer, to look into adding one or two individual restrooms. Tom asks if Session needs to approve the idea before Property takes further action.
- Aaron Kleinmeyer will bring the entire Child Protection Policy to Session
- A change is in the works to the Background check process. The change includes changing from just a National search to a National and a Local search, - via Protect My Ministry.
- Aaron drafted a policy governing our use of physical keys that he will take to Session. A subsequent discussion ensued (initiated by Dave) about a future proposal that Barry is working on. This would utilize electronic locks which can be locked and unlocked by using cell phones. Barry’s company will present a proposal at a date yet to be determined.

Team Reports

a. Finance: Larry Reporting

- Have not met this month – meeting March 19, February financials not yet available. Trending positively.

b. Helps: Dave Reporting

- Michael confirmed there will be an Easter Sunrise Service, per FirstTeam inquiry.
- Chairs:
 - Discussed purchasing 325 new chairs using \$10K gift and fundraising for balance
 - Alternate idea was cleaning current chairs for ~\$5K
 - Maintained recommendation to assess condition of current during Spring Break week.
 - Motion (Laura), Second (Dan) to have Property Team seek three bids for purchase of 325 chairs. Additionally, request Property Team to

seek bids for replacing pew cushions in Sanctuary. Both motions passed.

- Dave said Wednesday chair/table set up is moved to 5PM (vs 5:15) start time.
- Debbie is pursuing new coffee machine in Fellowship Hall kitchen.

c. **Mercy:** Laura reporting

- **Cuts and Crocks** will be delayed until Autumn
- Mary to submit Mercy Fund policy to Ethan Funk
- Laura will arrange rides for Steve Moberg for Wednesday/Sunday

d. **Property:** Tom reporting

- Request to purchase new chairs brought to Property Team
- Response included desire to inventory and possibly fix chairs with PVC attachment, and seek bids to clean current inventory
- Deacons concluded Property Team should seek three bids for new chair purchase and pew cushions
- Executive Session entered 7:13PM to 7:25PM
- Addition shelving added to MC storage areas
- Urinal fixed
- Parking lot lights (flashing) fix will be sought
- MowTeam email being distributed, with desire to have 4th team
- Property Team desires photo attached to request to fix a problem (send to fix@gashland.org, which sends to PT per Mary)

e. **Volunteer Position Info Team** report: Dan reporting, representing Debbie, Tom

- Dan provided sample forms, which Kathy Welch we convert to online forms, per Michael. Each Team will provide input for their Team's form needs to the VPI Team.

WOW Report /Prayer Requests:

- Steve advised his friend Jim passed away, with continued prayers for Jim's wife, Marsha
- Dave requested prayers for Auburn's dad, Kyle, who is working an AA program
- Larry thanks all for knee surgery and rehab time
- Laura offered cousin's father, Tim, came to faith during cancer treatment
- Dan thankful for Session leadership of our church. Also, thankful for new focus on how communion will be offered, per Michael's presentation.

Motion (Laura), Second (Steve) to Adjourned 8:17PM

Closing Prayer – Laura

Next In-person meeting: April 8, 2025 @6:15 pm

Moderator — Steve Moberg

Vice Moderator — Laura Cooper

Clerk — Debbie Failing (Mary Lancaster substitute for this meeting)