

October 23, 2011
Minutes of the Quarterly Church Conference
Grace Fellowship, Greensboro, Ga.

The conference was called to order by the Moderator, John Demarest.

David Torbert, Church Clerk, gave the 3rd quarter membership report.

John Mobley, Elder Chairman, gave the Elder Council Report

The elders have appointed a committee to evaluate and recommend changes to the Constitution and By-Laws

John mentioned that there are several service areas needing volunteers. Some areas needing volunteers are: Prayer Leader, Evangelism and Outreach, and the Personnel Team

The property committee has been evaluating the easement from Willow Run Road onto the property. The easement has been surveyed and volunteer labor/equipment will be used where applicable, which should save the church \$20,000 - \$25,000 below contracted costs.

The property committee is also considering future uses for the remaining property, such as a larger play area, nature walk, etc.

The elders are considering elder candidates for 2012-2015 from the names submitted by the church.

Elder shepherding guidelines are being worked on. The council is open to ideas from the body in this area.

John reminded the body to continually be in prayer for the elder council and church leadership.

David Rea, Church Treasurer, gave the financial report, highlights including:

Q3 YTD contributions are approximately \$10,000 over budget.

Building Fund: The paydown on the building fund is currently ahead of budget. The expected paydown for 2011 was \$85,000, while YTD paydown is currently at \$77,000

Recent interest only refinancing of the debt will save an additional \$7,600/year (based on \$516,000 current debt), with greater savings realized upon quicker balance reduction.

Budget: All categories are favorable to the 2011 budget. Total expenses are currently 12% below budget.

Operating Account: The operating account is currently \$129,000, compared to a target level of \$75,000. There is also an additional \$25,000 in the property fund reserved for large expenses.

The elder council brought forth a 2 part motion as follows:

- A) Move \$20,000 from the general fund to the building fund to pay down the mortgage by \$20,000
- B) Use up to \$15,000 from the general fund for the access easement and playfield projects.

After some discussion, the motion passed without opposition.

Orian Motley, Hospitality Committee Rep., gave the HC report.

The committee currently has 24 members, along with additional support from 8 Grace Groups. The committee plans food/refreshments for 10 week periods, and is currently working well.

Nancy Long, Missions Team Chair, gave a report from the Missions Team.

The state missions offering for September totaled \$476

Operation Christmas Child has begun for the year. The church collection date is set for 11/13. Nancy reminder everyone that this year, individuals can sign up online and “follow their box”, to see exactly where it is delivered.

Lottie Moon offering for foreign missions is coming up soon.

Haley Garrett will be leaving in January for an extended missions project in the Dominican Republic

The DR team currently stands at 20 members and is looking for more. Sign-up is in progress for this team. Nancy encouraged anyone who might be interested to consider joining the team.

Bill Lewis gave a report for the Small Group Team.

The team is comprised of Jimmy Long, Tena Moore, Fred Snider, Bill Lewis, and Debbie Sullivan.

There are currently 9 functioning Grace Groups

Weekly average attendance is 107

Weekly enrollment is 150

Sunday School/Morning Bible Study weekly average attendance is 85

Bill mentioned a new foundational class, GWF 102, that will focus on understanding the Mission, Vision, Beliefs, and Structure of Grace Fellowship. This class will be offered soon.

The team has purchased a 3-sided Kiosk to be displayed in the Gathering Area. Posters will be placed on the kiosk to keep people informed of upcoming events.

The team will be meeting soon with Grace Group facilitators to determine needs, materials, support needed, etc.

Robert Motley, Benevolence Deacon gave a report from the Benevolence Committee

In Q3, the committee gave a donation of \$817 to Greene County Christian Outreach (representing 40% of donations)

The committee considered 26 requests for assistance, with none denied. The majority of disbursements were for food boxes.

The number of requests has steadily increased throughout the year, with an additional increase anticipated in Q4, which is historically the highest.

Robert stated that the team will be glad to meet with Grace Groups upon request.

Wayne Hurst, Chairman of Frontline Ministry, gave a report from his team.

The team is currently working well.

A meeting with the usher chairmen is scheduled for 10/30 to discuss ways/ideas to improve the usher process.

Toby Dalton, Chairman of the Search Team, gave a report of the team's activities.

The team has begun meeting again, and will start with the top 20 candidates selected earlier to see if any of those candidates are still available. Each of these candidates will be contacted within the next two weeks.

There being no further business, Jimmy Long closed the conference with prayer.

David Torbert, Clerk

John Demarest, Moderator