

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TOPEKA
BOARD OF MINISTRIES

Minutes
June 20, 2007

Members attending: Members Attending: Arnetta Barker, Alan Bearman, Bill Beutler, Sally Burgess, Pam Ensley, Ed Fenton, Corey Fields, Bob Hedberg, Patty Hodge, Marti Macchi, Bob McElroy, Richard McKinsey, Dan Pitts, and Kathy Webber.

At 7:10 p.m., Ed Fenton opened the meeting with prayer.

New and Existing Business

Fall 2007 Hard Launch of FBC Programs: Ed asked that, at the next Board meeting, all areas be prepared to discuss the new programs and plans for their launch. Bob Hedberg added that, as each ministry area focuses on its own activities, Board meetings allow a chance to see how the activities cross ministry areas and fit together.

Constitution and Bylaws Changes Needed: Ed noted that, in a recent review of the Constitution and Bylaws, he saw that Corey Fields' position is not included. In addition, the Board discussed last month the need to update Charity Rouse's position title to Associate Pastor of Music Ministry. Bob Hedberg and Marti Macchi volunteered to meet with Ed and others he may appoint to review the Constitution and come to the next meeting with recommendations for change, to be brought to the congregation.

2007 FBC Mortgage Campaign: Dan Pitts stated that a kick-off campaign to retire the mortgage debt will be scheduled in conjunction with the Nicaragua lunch on July 15. The mortgage retirement campaign will run through the end of August. Dan will try to attend the next Finance Committee meeting to discuss this. Pam Ensley suggested we pull together an activity fair, using upbeat music and PowerPoint displays to show people what we've done with the CCLC and to get people interested in investing in new dreams. She and Marti will work with Dan on it.

Easter Offering Clarification: There had been some discussion at the May Board meeting about the vote on 04/18/07 to designate the Easter offering. Dan explained that on 03/15/06 the Board voted to use the 2006 Easter offering to enhance the outreach ministry (Evangelism). At this point the money collected in 2006 should be transferred to Evangelism and used; Arnetta Barker recommended Evangelism simply let her know when the money is needed. Several Board members had misunderstood the language of the motion for the 2007 Easter offering, however. Bill Beutler thought the offering was to be designated to go to Doorstep and the Topeka Rescue Mission. The Board voted on 04/18/07 that it go to local missions, to be disbursed at the discretion of the Service area. Ed said he had misunderstood the Finance Committee's request that it go to the budget. Dan recommended we take no further action, allowing Service to disburse half of it to Doorstep and half to the Topeka Rescue Mission. This was the consensus of the Board.

Appreciation to Search Committee: Ed offered thanks, on behalf of the Board, to Pam and to the whole Search Committee for its work in finding Charity Rouse. He noted that the church showed a great deal of interest in the choice, with 213 votes.

Minutes of 05/16/07: **Bob Hedberg moved and Corey Fields seconded to accept the minutes of the 05/16/07 Board meeting, as written. Motion carried.**

Staff Reports

Corey Fields distributed a written report, including:

- Outreach and evangelism activities include:
 - a church trip to a Royals game,
 - Small Group Administration Team brainstorming new groups and thinking of possible leaders,
 - Evangelism Team work on a networking strategy for our fall hard launch of new programs,
 - the new church website (www.fbctopeka.org), and
 - Corey's talks with four new families who have visited the church or are thinking of visiting it.
 - Small Group team attempts to reinvigorate Wednesday nights.

- The July 15-August 19 worship theme is “The 5 Purposes of the Church,” including questions like “Who are you?” “What do you want?” “Are you talking to me?” “So what?” “Why should I believe you?” and “Will I like you?”
- Corey will be away June 28-July 5 and, during his absence, Marti’s father will preach.

There was discussion about what Corey emphasizes in the alternative service. Corey explained that he is the “lead designer,” focusing on all aspects of worship. The target group is families aged 20-40 with small children. Corey does not differentiate between different types of groups within this category.

Area Reports

Worship: Pam Ensley stated that 08/05/07 will be Recognition Sunday. After each service we will have time to recognize and express appreciation for all who served in interim positions in music/worship. She identified Nicolas and Leslie Carr, Daniel Ogle, Carol Beck, Theo Musick, and Amy Robinson. Pam added that 07/08/07 is a huge day: Joe will return from sabbatical; the church will celebrate his 10th anniversary with the church at a reception; a youth group from Keller, Texas will visit the church and the church will host a lunch for them; and there will be a Nicaragua planning lunch. Pam asked if the two lunches could be combined, with pizza, and it was agreed this would work. Charity will arrive around 07/15/07 and will begin the following week.

Administration: Arnetta distributed the financial report, pointing out that giving in May was down considerably from the year before. Year-to-date, the church has a \$6,445.95 bottom line (compared with \$4,286.60 through May 2006). As receipts are traditionally slow in the summer, we should encourage budget giving. The Finance Committee approved another \$5,000 payment against the mortgage principal, leaving a balance of \$428,500 on the loan.

Dan Pitts updated on Nicaragua plans, expressing appreciation for church support. He handed out a flyer that will be distributed, as well as a booklet for 40 days of preparation and prayer. Thirty-one people are planning to go. Bob McElroy added that Ken Perry’s group sent funds to the Parajons and received thanks for the donation.

Ed noted that the Property Committee recommended the Board approve a martial arts class; he will follow up with them on the process. He added that the Board doesn’t need to act on purchasing trash cans, as requested.

Recreation: No report.


Evangelism: Bob Hedberg distributed a handout that reported the team is working on a theme title and key Bible verse for a marketing plan, to target both internally to members and regular church attendees, and externally to those outside the church to whom we want to minister.

Education: Kathy Webber said Education had a good response from its request for help. Vacation Bible School was excellent this year, with 33 kids and a great curriculum which was tied to Fun Fridays.

Service: Bill Beutler asked if Nicaragua-type fund raisers can continue through August, with an old-fashioned church picnic, possibly with hamburgers. The Missions Advocates could combine its ice cream social with the picnic as a fund raiser. Pam would like it to be considered with the capital campaign, asking only for the costs to be covered. Arnetta will ask the Finance Committee to review the suggestions.

At 8:10 p.m., with no more business, Kathy Webber closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Norma Phillips, Church Clerk