

Hahira First Baptist Church Annual Business Meeting

August 12, 2020

The Hahira First Baptist Church members met August 12, 2020 for the annual business meeting with Carl Fulp as moderator. Kenny Murphy opened the meeting with prayer.

Carl asked if there were any questions or corrections to last month's minutes. Hearing no changes, the minutes were read and approved.

Life Connections: Bruce McConville reported that prior to the COVID pandemic the monthly averages ranged from 60-70 people. In September 2019, the average was 63, October's average was 66, November's average was 70, December's average was 58, January of 2020 had an average of 69, February 2020 had an average of 72 and March 2020 had an average of 63. Church activities were suspended after that time due to the COVID Pandemic.

Brant Lindsey continues to work with the Prison Ministry Class and started a Life Connection Class for them.

We originally had 10 classes but have combined several so we now have a total of 8 classes. The two and three-year old class was combined with K and Pre-K and the middle and high school classes were combined.

We encourage tithing in the worship service instead of tithing in our Life Connection Groups so the act of giving is observed during the worship service.

Please be in prayer for our Life Connection Groups as we are always in need of volunteers.

Our Life Connection Groups will resume this Sunday, August 16th at 9:45 a.m. All adult classes will meet in the sanctuary. Please sit in the same place for Life Connections and Church so the remaining areas will stay clean for others.

Ladies Ministry: Dawn reported that last fall they had a Ladies Banquet with about 25 in attendance. Karen Gordon was the speaker and brought a great message. We also revealed our secret sisters which I feel was a great success last year and everyone seemed to really enjoy that activity. We continued our Secret Sisters activity this year, but we will need to wait and see if the COVID pandemic allows us to gather together or if we will have to choose a different reveal activity. We prepared Thanksgiving food baskets. The Men's Ministry assisted in that activity. We were very blessed with food for the baskets last fall. Upcoming projects are directed toward back to school and we are researching to see if we can prepare some care packages for long term care facilities and nursing homes if that is allowed.

Men's Ministry: Kenny Murphy reported they had 3 critical meetings September 14th, 2019, October 26th, 2019 and November 16th, 2019. We had three service events. In November we worked with the Women's Ministry on the Thanksgiving baskets. 13 baskets were delivered.

In December, over 30 Christmas gifts were given out to LAMP along with a gospel message. Also, in December we had a 24-hour prayer vigil. We created a Men's Ministry Facebook Group in March for the purpose of strengthening and encouraging men through the use of electronic media. Three YouTube videos were created during the COVID-19 pandemic. Prayer team: Graham, Whitehead, Welch, Hughes & McConville.

Audit Committee: No report

Baptism Committee: Chris Hasty reported that baptisms were down this year due to the COVID pandemic which caused our services to be suspended for several months. Brother David reported that so far this year we have had 3 baptisms.

Benevolence Committee: Brother David reported that we had a need and met that need with \$500.00. I do not believe there have been any other funds expended.

Building and Grounds Committee: No report.

Children's Committee: Candy Harper reported for Katie Gordon. The children participated in several activities this year including Back to School Service and the youth led service (VBS material presented). Honeybee parade where the children and youth received 2nd place for their float. Children teamed up with the youth for the Fall festival and raised money for OCC. In December, the Children's Committee put on a Christmas musical "The Mysterious Animal". Our last event before COVID restrictions was our Sprinkle Love Like Confetti party for the kids in February. Last month in July we started back on Wednesday nights using the VBS curriculum "Concrete and Cranes" for 5 weeks. As of August, children's activities on Wednesday nights are cancelled due to not having the volunteers to keep this ministry running. Life Connection starts back this Sunday. All children 3 years to 5th grade will be in the same class located in the children's sanctuary. All children are asked to be dropped off and signed in at the double glass doors. Temperature checks will be required. No child with symptoms or temperature will be allowed. Children's Church will resume on September 13th.

Evangelistic Committee: No report.

Finance Committee: No report.

Flower Committee: No report

History Committee: No report.

Long Range Planning Committee: No report.

Membership Committee: No report.

Memorial Committee: No report.

Music Committee: Terry Hughes reported for Clint Carnine. We had 20 adults enrolled. 3- Instrumentalists, 3 in Media Ministry, 2 in social media communications, 10 in Youth Back Stage and 12 in Children's music. This year we participated in the Hanging of the Green's Service and the joint Christmas Service Cantata with Adel First Baptist Church. The Media Ministry launched their recording and live screen services during the COVID outbreak.

Nominating Committee: Kenny Murphy reported they met in the last couple of weeks and still have quite a few spots they are trying to fill.

Nursery Committee: No report.

Personnel Committee: No report.

Senior Adult Committee: Candy Harper reported that the committee did not meet due to committee members illness and calendar conflicts.

Social Committee: Linda Thrift reported that prior to the COVID pandemic we prepared several Wednesday night suppers. We also had several socials during the Christmas season and have a social planned for August 30th at Reed Bingham.

Usher Committee: No report.

Youth Committee: Laura Fulp reported for Faith Kolb. In July 2019, SNAC every Sunday night during the month. In August, SNAC Back to School service with the Children's Department. In September: Dinner and Movie for OCC, Authentic Love Bible Study and Christ Makes Winners Rally. In October: continued Authentic Love Bible Study, HoneyBee Parade with Children's Department, Pancake and Sausage Breakfast fundraiser for Youth Department and the Fall Festival with the Children's Department. In November: we finished Authentic Love Bible Study, OCC packing party and Shoebox drop off. In December: Youth Christmas Party, Sugar Cookie decorating for Community kitchen, Sheriff's Youth Ranch, stockings for Sheriff's Youth Ranch, LAMP and MOVE. In January: Kick Ball Tournament for Tillman Family, Youth led service and Authentic Love Commitment Recognition. In February Youth hosted Wednesday night supper. In March we held a Paint party for OCC. In July SNAC for 2 Sunday nights and Concrete and Cranes Student VBS lessons on Wednesday nights. The Youth are back in their study of the book of Revelation on Wednesday nights.

D-Life: Terry Hughes, coordinator reported that we had 15 groups. We gained 2 but lost 3 so we now have 14. We had 65 members but lost 8 so we now have a total of 57 members. We have 6 groups that are meeting through COVID 19 with all precautions and rules being followed. The mission projects were LAMP meals and witnessing, ministered to non-member who was hospitalized, ministered to HFBC shut-in, Operation Christmas Child, Toys for Tots and the HoneyBee Festival.

Financial Report: No discussion.

Deacons Report: Scott Johns reported that twelve Deacons Meetings were held for the 2019-2020 Church Year. Deacons did not meet in December 2019 but held two meetings in March 2020. Additionally, three Special Meetings were held.

Current Deacons that served this year: Carl Fulp, Gaylon Graham, Chris Hasty (Secretary), Cleo Hughes (Chairman), Scott Johns (Vice Chairman).

Deacons Meetings began with Bible Reading and Opening Prayer followed by sharing prayer needs and a concentrated time of prayer for our congregation.

HFBC Deacons joined our Staff, ministering to our congregation in many ways this year while seeking to lead our Church during the unprecedented Corona-Virus Pandemic. Here is a brief review of the major items, issues and concerns we have addressed and provided direction and leadership:

- Prepared and served Lord’s Suppers
- Performed Deacon of the Week/Teller Responsibilities and Security
- Worked with Pastor to develop policy for use of Church Facilities
- Coordinated with Building & Grounds Committee to upgrade signage, repair foyer lighting and conduct a facility walk through
- Addressed recommendations from the Constitution Revision Committee
 - Frequency of revising Constitution/Electronic copy
 - Recording the History of our Church
 - Update Church Membership
- Worked with Finance Committee to clarify memorial gift designations
- Discussed our giving to the Valdosta Baptist Association considering VBAs ministry direction
- Held Deacon/Pastor/wife fellowship (Thursday, 26 Sep 19, Fulp Home)
- Made initial plans to implement a “Yokefellow” Ministry
- Planned Annual Fish Fry (23 Nov)
- Reviewed the Proposed 2020 Budget
- Sent an Ambassador (Cleo Hughes) from HFBC to the Ordination of Stacy Bourquine (former member) as Pastor; scheduled for 4 PM Sunday 17 Nov 19, Miles Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Baxley, GA
- Approved the use of our facilities once per week by “Classical Conversations,” a Home-Schooling Clinic for parents and teachers
- Worked to develop a Comprehensive Security Plan for HFBC (Church Security Consultation, Georgia Baptist Mission Board, Ben O’Neal, 02 Mar 20, @ HFBC); in progress
- Reviewed “Semester Scheduling” process being used by Church Council
- Reviewed monthly Financial Status, Expenditures and made recommendations to the Finance Committee.
- Rescheduled and coordinated Deacon Nominations for 2020 – 21; Current Deacons will be
 - Carl Fulp
 - Chris Hasty (Vice-Chairman)
 - Cleo Hughes (Secretary)
 - Scott Johns (Chairman)
 - Brant Lindsey
- Reviewed Quarterly Calendars at each meeting
- All meetings were closed with prayer

Administration and Leadership: March – June 2020

Primary focus of Administration and Leadership during this period (as well as special meetings) has been to evaluate Church worship, ministry, programming and outreach and chart a forward course of action during the Corona-Virus Pandemic. We have placed priority on the safety and well-being of the Church while at the same time sought the best way forward to continue worship services and programming to meet the needs of our congregation, minister to and reach out to our community during this unprecedented time.

Discussed with staff and helped plan **media worship/live streaming services and returning to on-campus worship and Wednesday evening programming.** Pastor David Gordon, Music and Media Director Clint Carnine and Ministry Assistant Candy Harper are to be commended for their leadership and hard work.

In our **June meeting** we considered several **recommendations from the Church council:**

- Deacon nomination plan and schedule
- 01 July, begin Wednesday night programming
- 02 Aug, begin Life Connection groups
- 12 Aug, annual business meeting
- Discussed returning to PM worship
- Discussed revival/recommitment to D-Life/D-Groups

Meetings were closed with prayer.

Church Council: Brother David reported they met for 10 out of the 12 months of the Church calendar year. We averaged 12 in attendance with an average of 13 ministries represented at those meetings. The Church Council exists to maintain unity for communication and advisory. Agendas for the past year included Church programming, process structure and coordinating of events and tools to help fulfil our purpose which is to Love God, Love People and Make Disciples. The Church Council participated and/or advised in budget and stewardship, amending our Church Constitution, developing our facility use policy, Classical Conversations home schooling plans for our facilities here at HFBC, signage needs for our Church, yearly calendar outlook and security needs and policy for our Church. We are asking our congregation to wear masks and to please maintain social distancing. Being followers of Christ, we are to live in peace with everyone. If you have symptoms, please stay at home and let me and the Church office know so we can be praying for you. If you are symptomatic, please watch our online services. Our Life Connection Groups will be recorded for those not able to attend. Wednesday night ministry for the children is unfortunately not available at this time. Children's Church is to resume on September 13th. Sunday evening service will resume on September 20th. We do have a fellowship planned at Reed Bingham on August 30th. Our Back to School recognition service is going to take up a portion of our time this Sunday. I trust you will prepare to come and lift our students and teachers. We are recommending that we adopt a ministry for Hahira Elementary School. The ministry will consist of providing a nice vegetable box for every staff member at HES. There are 90 staff members. We plan to encourage them by presenting them with a vegetable box and a letter from our Church to let them know we are praying for them. We are also having a prayer walk around the school tomorrow, August 13th at 9:00 a.m.

Old Business: No report.

New Business: No report

Correspondence: None

Cleo Hughes reported on Sam and Melissa Hughes ministry.

ANNUAL REPORT: SAM & MELISSA HUGHES,

YOUTH MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL (YMI) MISSIONARIES TO UKRAINE

- YMI Trainers at Kyiv Theological Seminary (KTS)
- YMI and KTS enjoy a 19 year partnership working together to train youth leaders
- Ministry has expanded to five Center for Youth Ministry (CYM) Training Centers in Ukraine: Cherkassy, Kherson, Kremenchuk, Kyiv and Rivne
- Acquired a Permanent Residence Permit in Feb 2020, good for 10 years
- Sam developed a process to teach classes on-line and implemented it Seminary wide; this Fall classes will be offered on-campus and on-line
- Expanding Youth Ministry training to Central Asia
- Melissa developed and led an English Bible Club for older children
- August 01, 2020: Celebrated 10 Year Anniversary serving in Ukraine
- Furlough: Canceled for June 2020; tentative plans for December 2020
- Future Plans:
 - Purchase an apartment and move (August-September)
 - Pursue a Doctoral program
 - Travel to two countries in Central Asia seeking ministry expansion
- Slide/picture presentation was shared with the congregation

Brother David read scripture and dismissed in prayer.