

<b>DEACON</b>	<b>EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH</b>
<b>MEETING MINUTES</b>	

<b>Date/Time:</b>	Monday January 16th, 2012
<b>Purpose:</b>	Bi-Monthly Deacon Team Meeting
<b>Attendees:</b>	Rob Christiansen, Bruce Eckel, George Hardy, Kamba Kalubi, Kevin Kritzberger, Rob Lofthouse, Joe Meier, Otis Powell, John Romero, Bob Smith
<b>Excused:</b>	Mark Hardy
<b>Attachments:</b>	Activities Committee Report Property Committee Annual Report Security Committee Report Transportation Committee Annual Report Ushers Report

**Devotional**

Bruce opened with a devotional reflecting on the story written by Lisa Beamer, widow of Todd Beamer who was one of the heroes in the terror attack on America, September 11th, 2001. Her story brought to mind the faith in God that she and her husband both shared.

**Opening Prayer**

Joe Meier opened in prayer.

**Annual Election**

Bruce Eckel was re-elected as Board President.

Kevin Kritzberger was re-elected as Board Vice President.

Rob Lofthouse was elected as Board Secretary.

**New Members**

Bob Smith has joined the Deacon Board as our newest member, and will be taking over leadership of the Community Concerns Committee.

Otis Powell is up for election at the next Congregational Meeting, and has been invited to participate with the Deacons. Pending his election, Otis will take over the Church-School Liaison role.

**Previous Meeting Minutes**

Approved

**Committee Reports**

Look for Committee Reports attached at the end of these meeting minutes.

**Activities – Kevin Kritzberger**

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Identified a difference in the budget approved versus the current authorized budget (\$550 vs. \$800).

Message sent out to Activities Team to be creative in making decisions about expenses, cut back where possible.

Athletes for Christ have reserved Fellowship Hall for basketball practices and games. That ministry appears to be taking off, as they want to add more teams. Considerable discussion ensued on the viability of such a ministry tying up the gym over a long period (weeks) of time and potentially causing scheduling conflicts with other Ebenezer ministries and/or member requested activities (such as birthday parties, weddings, funerals, etc.).

Optional solutions could be to put everyone on a 'first-come-first-server' basis, or prioritizing (1) ministry functions, (2) wedding/funeral functions, (3) other member functions.

Kevin and Robbin Hunsberger are the arbitrators of scheduling conflicts.

The Deacons finally agreed to handle these on a case by case basis.

#### **Benevolence – Joe Meier**

We ended the (2011) year with a \$14k balance.

#### **Caregivers – Rob Christiansen**

This committee has been largely inactive. Rob met with Pastor Jason to discuss direction. ELM appears to be dissolved at this point, with many of those functions dispersed to other ministries. This ministry is working chiefly off of pastoral referrals. Rob is considering posting an announcement in a Sunday bulletin in addition to the church newsletter.

#### **Church-School Liaison – Otis Powell**

BCS will host their annual Art Show in the gym on 3/16.

BCS will host their annual Auction/Banquet at Calvary Baptist on 4/20.

The Elders unanimously approved a request by BCS to host their pre-school and day care program beginning in the 2012-2013 school year. Following this announcement, 4 prospective families have immediately decided to enroll their children in the program.

#### **Community Concerns – Bob Smith**

Ben Kusiak has done a great job of coordinating the November food collection – 700 items collected this past Thanksgiving and donated to a local food bank.

#### **Counting – Bruce Eckel**

Six counting teams of 2 members each are scheduled for 2012. The new schedule will be posted in the closet soon. Individual phone numbers will be included. Bruce has agreed to follow up on the missing Night Deposit Key.

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*Ordinances – Kamba Kalubi*

Still looking for additional guys to step up and help with the 1st service Communion, as this team continues to be short-handed. Several guys serve at both the 1st and 2nd services.

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January 29th is the current target for our next Baptism.

**Property – George Hardy**

Women's restroom ceiling leak has been fixed, and a full renovation of that room is in order. That work is currently in progress.

The four old cameras have been wired and installed but not yet working with the new surveillance system. Fox Brothers will need to come back and configure those cameras. Three neighbors have encroached on church property.

The Deacons are waiting on Elders to finalize the letter that has been prepared for presentation to these neighbors.

**Security – Rob Lofthouse**

The surveillance system is installed, thanks to the work of Otis Powell and his assistants. Six new color cameras have been functioning and recording video since Christmas Eve. The 4 older black and white cameras have been wired and are now awaiting Fox Alarm to complete the configuration.

Additional discussion centered on whether or not the Security Team should drop the Sunday school patrol. The Security Team has not consistently staffed that role since we dropped to two services. Rob will reach out separately to the Elders and Deacons for support on an ongoing basis.

Rob will also meet up with Rob Christiansen on Wednesday evening, to speak with parents who are regularly in the building on Wednesday evenings – to encourage some to step up and assist with some security patrol duties.

**Transportation – Mark Hardy**

Mark was excused due to a conflicting work schedule. No report tonight.

**Ushers/Emergency Response/Evacuation – John Romero**

Two new ushers joined the team.

The First Aid Kits will be replenished this week.

**New Business**

None

**Next Meeting - March 19, 2012 6:30pm**

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## ACTIVITIES MEETING

JANUARY 11, 2012

KEVIN OPENED IN PRAYER AT 6:10 PM

DISCUSSION WAS HELD IN REGARDS TO THE BUDGET BEING CUT SIGNIFICANTLY AND HOW WE HAVE TO REVISE THE WAY WE DO THINGS WITHIN THE COMMITTEES.

ROB CHRISTIANSEN LED A DISCUSSION ON THE FACT THAT BECAUSE THE BUDGET WAS CUT IT SHOULDN'T REFLECT ON THE EVENTS BEING CUT BACK. IN FACT, BECAUSE OF WHERE WE ARE AS A CHURCH AT THIS TIME, THERE SHOULD BE MORE OF AN EMPHASIS PUT ON FELLOWSHIP TIME WITH OTHERS.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- DAY TRIPS: NONE SCHEDULED AT THIS TIME
- SPORTS: ATHLETES FOR CHRIST HAS STARTED THEIR BASKETBALL PROGRAM AND ALSO HAS INTRODUCED A FIVE WEEK SOCCER CLINIC PROGRAM FOR THE KIDS.
- CAMPING: SPRING TRIP IS BEING PLANNED AND A REVISED WAY OF DOING RESERVATIONS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED SO THAT THE CHURCH IS PROTECTED OF NOT LOSING ANY MONEY.
- FELLOWSHIP MEALS: SEVERAL POT LUCK BREAKFAST'S WILL OCCUR THIS YEAR AND WILL BE HELD ON THE NON-SUNDAY SCHOOL DAYS. THIS WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH THE DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY AND THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE AS TO WAYS WE CAN IMPLEMENT BOTH IF NEED BE.
- GAME NIGHT: AN ALL CHURCH GAME NIGHT WILL BE HELD IN FEBRUARY.
- SNOW SPORTS: WE WILL BE PLANNING A SKIING NIGHT IN FEBRUARY.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE IN MARCH TO DISCUSS FUTURE COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION AND EVENTS.

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## **Benevolence Committee Report – January 2012**

We postponed our December 2011 meeting until January 18, 2012.

- Balance in the Benevolence Account is \$15,648.12.
- Benevolence Committee gave over \$1,300 in Giant Gift Cards for Thanksgiving and Christmas; and the Yaks as gave turkeys and fixings for Christmas dinner to those in need in our congregation and community.
- Reducing the rent assistance to Clement's family by \$100 starting February. Joe is meeting with him to review budget for each month over the next several months. Steve McDaniel continues to work with him and has access to his bank records.
- Paying for a car payment and medical bills for a long-time member of EBFC whose working hours were cut by the employer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joe Meier

## **Property Committee Annual Report 2011**

Property committee members: George Hardy (chairman), Kevin Kritzberger, Doug Files, Dave Van Schoick, Otis Powell, Don Lynch and Wayne Batten

2011 has been another tough year with on going problems due to the age of our church. We have had persistent leaks in our roofs and more HVAC issues and repairs.

Some of the projects completed this year were:

- Final planning, ordering and installation of our new carpeting, pews and pulpit area expansion
- Painting of the sanctuary
- Most of the lighting occupancy sensors have been installed and the remaining problem areas (which needed wiring upgrades to install sensors) will be done sometime soon
- The video security system upgrade is up and running with a couple of cameras left to be installed sometime soon
- Leaking screws in the sanctuary roof were sealed
- The heating/hot water furnace for the parsonage was replaced
- Several classrooms have had Smart Board interactive whiteboards installed that were donated by Bethlehem Christian School
- The consistent ongoing leak in the north ladies bathroom has finally been fixed and we hope to have the ceiling replaced soon and the vanities in both ladies rooms replaced in the near future

I would like to thank everyone who helped make the sanctuary renovations possible through your contributions, help on committees and support for this major project. We have received many compliments on it and everyone seems to be enjoying this improvement.

Thank you to the many volunteers that helped Kevin Kritzberger and the property committee throughout the year with hundreds of hours of donated labor to help maintain and improve our building and grounds.

I would also like to thank the committee members who served with me this year on the property committee. It was a pleasure working with you and I look forward to serving with you on the committee for 2012.

We greatly appreciate all those who signed up to take care of the various flowerbeds. It was a tremendous help and they looked great.

Respectfully submitted,  
George Hardy  
Property Committee Chairman

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## Security Committee January Report

The surveillance system has been installed by Facilities (Otis Powell) and is operational.

We continue to tweak the system, but have been recording video in two separate modes (scheduled, motion). We plan to connect the Fox Alarm system and set up the sensitive mode in the near future.

Recordings have been captured on the hard drive since Christmas Eve. Video quality is high and system flexibility continues to impress.

Mark Hardy has configured the system to interact with the computer network and is working on enabling remote access.

The security team has no significant incidents to report from Sunday mornings.

In all likelihood, the security team will drop the middle shift on Sundays. This will leave a security presence in place for only the two sanctuary services. The Sunday School time in between the two will not have security coverage.

If anyone has concerns, feel free to bring them up. [see minutes of 1/16/2012 Deacon meeting for an update]

Rachel has requested the security team to man a post on Wednesday evenings, but we are unable to put together a team for that purpose. I recommended to Pastor Bickings that we hire a Security Service for that three-hour span on Wednesday evenings but have not heard anything since. [see minutes of 1/16/2012 Deacon meeting for an update]

An Elder from Grace Brethren has invited me to speak to their Elder Board and introduce them to what we have done on security. I'm waiting on a formal invitation to attend their Board meeting, and will report on that when it happens.

Respectfully Submitted -

God bless.

Robert Lofthouse | Deacon & Security Team Leader | Matt 10:16 | (610)  
392.7084  
Ebenezer Bible Fellowship Church | Bethlehem, PA 18020



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## **Transportation Committee Annual Report: 2011**

Kevin Kritzberger, Swannie Griffin, Fred Parris

During 2011, we saw consistent use (equivalent to 2010) of the church vehicles (2008 Ford Omnibus, assembled by Eldorado National; and a 1997 Ford E-350 Econoline van). However, the need for rental vans was significantly less than in 2010. Rental vehicles are used (in addition to EBFC's vehicles) when the ministry in need of transportation which requires more seating than EBFC's vehicles provide, and when it is impractical for multiple volunteer vehicles to be driven.

### **2011:**

- The van had some transmission work, as well as some 'Tune-up' maintenance items, performed at the end of 2011; thanks to Don at Hillside Auto for his continued service and generosity in providing service with significant savings to the church.
- The mini-bus had a few minor recall items repaired over the summer.
- The committee continues discussion of viable options for replacement of the van. Purchase of a new van is being pursued due to specific concerns regarding the reliability of the current van; decreasing rental availability in the Lehigh Valley and increasing rental costs, are also a factor.
- Transportation Fund (for purchase of additional/replacement vehicles) is now over \$16,000. If you desire to contribute to this fund, simply write "Transportation Fund" along with the amount given, under the "Special" section of an offering envelope.

Thanks to Kevin Kritzberger, Swannie Griffin, and Fred Parris, for their service and insight in 2011.

Mark Hardy  
Transportation Chairman

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## USHERS

This year again I have been blessed with men who have a desire to serve the Lord. The ushers at the church are dedicated men who not only work on their assigned crews but also fill the void where needed on other crews. This year we went to two services which enabled the ushers to be placed on different crews to meet the needs of both services. Head ushers and ushers both step up to fill all crews. Right now all crews are full and ministering to the congregation. We still could use a couple of men to help or fill in when the need arises. God has provided and has continued to provide. We will continue with ministry moments and look at networking to fill the voids where needed. A meeting will be scheduled with head ushers and ushers to go over evacuations and to communicate security concerns along with usher needs. This meeting will be a joint meeting with security. The speaker system has been added and this has been met with much appreciation. We continue to be the eyes and ears of the church.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Romero