

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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(June 2015)

We have already moved past half of the year of 2015! Time certainly does move quickly and waits for no one! Believe it or not, time can be our friend or our foe. Time is and always has been important for humankind. Time, of various kinds of increments, helps us to order and regulate the daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly rhythm of life. Human life needs, demands and cannot function properly without some measurement of time. So let us not waste time, bide time, and certainly not "kill time." Since time is of limited quantity for us as finite human beings, let us "spend" time wisely. It is our prayer that we have been doing just that for the up-building of God's kingdom, here on the corner of Sherman and North!

DEACON'S COUNCIL

The Deacon's Council met on *Saturday, June 6, 2015* at 9:00am and discussed the following key points:

- The Childcare summer program (which has now started)
- The increased enrollment at Community Childcare

- The Van driver request to pick up and drop off Youth to the Milwaukee AIM Youth Conference held at Christ The King on June 19th and 20th
- Internet Service for the Parish House – Andrew Essien III (from Christ The King B.C.) to review of our current internet-service and will provide a formal proposal to the church.
- The Milwaukee-AIM Deacon's Retreat/September 18-19, 2015 at the Green Lake Conference Center.
- Elevator update – All current work has been approved by the state for handicap accessibility; final inspection will be done once the elevator has been completed.

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

We convened on Saturday, June 6 at 10:20am. Below is a recap:

- As we always do at every meeting we prayed and read scripture.
- We engaged in a Positivity Activity amongst the leaders in which we turned to our neighbor and shared something positive that we admire about them. Here are a few words that were spoken about our leaders; they encourage, are consistent, dependable, smile, dedicated, enthusiastic, and positive,
- Ministry Reports Included the following:
 - Cookout report from Sis Betty Walker that outlined specific details such as the cost of the t-shirts and the deadline to order them. In addition, new to this year; food service will stop at 2:30pm to allow every one the opportunity to enjoy the festivities.
 - VBS report came from Sis Perry, to be held the last week in June nightly from 6-8, still looking for volunteers.
 - Love Kindness update from Rev Robertson, in need of a few volunteers to commit to starting here then spreading throughout the city
 - CBC Wealth creation workshop kickoff was a success with 11 people in attendance. It will be a recurring 5 week program.

-Sis Grisby presented an appeal for a list of items needed for the bathroom, asked everyone to purchase one item.

The Ladies room will have 3 stalls one will be handicap
 Letter of acknowledgement in lieu of tax exempt
 List to go on web & in vestibule

-Finance Update was given by Bro Jude, 60k has already been raised for elevator, total projected cost is 90k. In May we had an extra 8k, we must continue to consistently give thru June & July. Our bathroom renovation is projected to cost 122k.

*“We do a good job of getting what we want
 and begging for what we need.”*

-Bro Willie Jude

- Proposed Outdoor worship on Sunday, July 12 on our lot, a team of leaders met to discuss the logistics. Bro Marcus Patton agreed to take the lead and get quotes for stage, tent and sound rental. However this idea has been postponed to next year to give ample time for preparation and execution. In addition, we plan to order Polo shirts with our church logo embroidered on it for a casual yet uniformed look.
- Pastoral Leadership Presentation
 - Last year, every ministry leader received a letter stating what is expected of them. In addition, Pastor met one on one with every leader to assess expectations and evaluate effectiveness; he plans to do this every other year. He stated that in previous meetings we spent more time giving information vs instruction and as we move forward we will cut back on reporting and focus more on leadership development. We read passages from 2Kings & Chronicles, and talked about how the fish rots from the head first. Pastor emphasized the importance of being slow to anger & being patient, and to not make decisions out of frustration. He discussed how a working positive atmosphere should be inspiring and not frustrating. Being a disciple is doing what you don't want to do first so that you can do what u want to do later.

Food For Thought:

“What if your car acted like you and one wheel decided, ‘I don't feel like rolling today’?”

P.L.A.C.E. IMPLEMENTATION

P.L.A.C.E. stands for:

- P**ersonality Discovery
- L**earning Spiritual Gifts
- A**bilities Awareness
- C**onnecting Passion with Ministry
- E**xperiences of Life

Our first ten candidates for PLACE have responded and will start the process in August! We are implementing this program here at Community to give people an opportunity to discover who they are in God. We are so excited about this process because it helps all of us to discover not only our gifts, but insight into the plan that God has for all of our lives!

TEN-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN: “PROSPERING THE VISION”

The Core Team convened on Tuesday, June 2nd at 6:30pm. The meeting started off by watching a video via Ted.com entitled “Try something new for 30 days” by Matt Cutts who is an engineer at Google. This video showed how easy it is to subtract a habit or instill a new habit by simply being consistent for 30 days straight. When you make small sustainable changes they are more likely to stick. What is it that you've always wanted to try? The next 30 days will occur weather you try or not, so isn't it worth a shot?

Minister Flowers presented a proposal for protocol as to how we will deal with new ideas. Our homework for the next meeting was to review it and write edits to be reviewed at our next meeting.

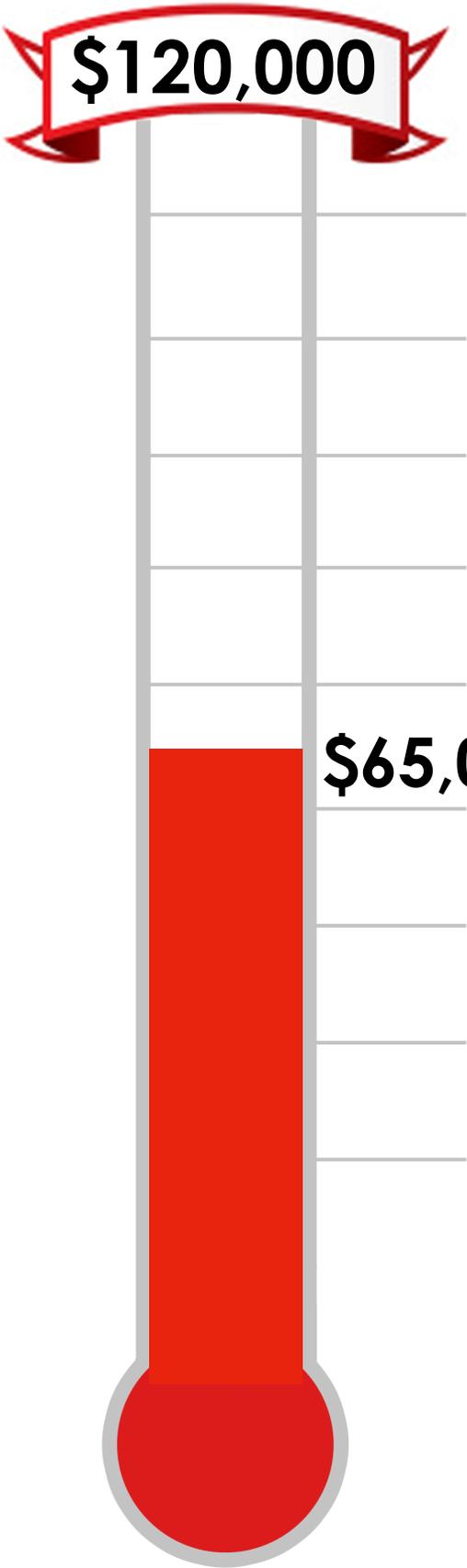
We discussed our relationship with North Milwaukee State Bank who currently has all our property tied up and won't release it. This means that they have not approved a loan for the construction work we are doing. We discussed ways to engage the congregation in giving and came up with providing personalized envelopes in a single bright color along with a commitment letter. We also talked about showing where we are vs where we're going in a visual format on our screens and in the newsletter. In the past, our church did a pledge in which we raised 100k! If we did it then by the grace of God, we can most certainly do it again! We serve a God who has and will provide.

FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS

On behalf of our pastor and the Finance Committee, we want to again thank each of you for your kind donations as we continue to move closer to the completion of several special projects while pressing forward with our many outreach programs. Our giving comes out of an understanding that all of our financial resources like everything else that we have, comes from God. The question is often asked, why does God care about My Money? God cares about our money, because how we use it reflects how obedient we are to him. We want to be obedient to our God!

The CBCGM Handicap Accessibility Project (or "the Church Elevator") is in its final phase of completion and we want to thank each of you for the support. Your generosity will assist CBCGM in making a lasting difference in the lives of others. We need your help. The sacrifice of each member is very important toward the \$1000.00 commitment. If you cannot do a Thousand dollars, we want you to truly do what you can. With the help of God, we will complete the Elevator, Kitchen and Bathroom. Once again, the Finance Ministry wants to thank each of you for your ongoing support as we continue to move forward in Christ Jesus.

**Note: Your bi-annual contribution statement will be mailed on or before July 15, 2015.*



\$120,000

Our goal

THANK
YOU!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The CBC Wealth Creation course was introduced as advertised on Tuesday, June 2nd at 6:00 PM in the Parish House with 10 participants attending. Unfortunately it turns out that there were too many conflicts on Tuesdays so attendance dropped on the following two sessions. Three sessions were held and my hope is that those who attended did in fact receive the information and the incentive they need to begin their progress to true wealth creation. The last two sessions were postponed because of conflicts with VBS and the AIM Conference on Ministry. However, I will hold private sessions with anyone who might want to learn what we are teaching. There is no charge for this so if you have any questions call Mike Robertson at **508-561-3921**. The goal is to have at least 5 couples or individuals able to report back to the congregation the value of the program so when we reintroduce the program in the fall more people will have a better understanding regarding what is required for financial success.

The Love Kindness program was introduced at the Hi-Mount school during their awards presentations on June 10th. One child in each of the 15 classes received a Love Kindness award for being especially kind to others. Alex Hardy was instrumental in helping get this awards program introduced at Hi-Mount this spring. This is a wonderful beginning of a program we hope and pray will spread to many other schools throughout Milwaukee when school starts in the Fall. If you would like to serve on the CBC Love Kindness Ministry Team please let me know. We expect to have Love Kindness promotional material available for distribution as soon as we are able to identify the level of CBC member support. Success as a CBC outreach ministry depends entirely upon the enthusiastic support of church members. Our stated objective to have Milwaukee become known as "The Love Kindness City" will not only require your active participation but your prayers as well. Let's begin by wearing a Love Kindness button that you give away when anyone comments on it. Who will give away the most buttons? Who will be the first to see others wearing one of our buttons? Will you put a Love Kindness bumper sticker on your car/truck when they are available? The longest journey begins with a single step and right now we encourage you to take that first step!

We are working with the Burleigh Street CDC and other organizations to help people find jobs. If you are looking for a job please call me so I can forward your name to the proper location. Right now there are a number of companies looking for workers and some of these jobs have excellent long term potential. We are also working with Common Ground and others to locate a house in our neighborhood that we can renovate and either rent or use. If you have any ideas you want to share to help increase our neighborhood outreach please let me know.

In Memoriam

Finally, let us remember the beloved souls that have passed from our congregation and also the family members of our CBCGM sisters and brothers. We sincerely offer our prayers and condolences to the bereaved families of the following:

Warner B. Miller

(Brother of Mary Gore)

Mrs. Jeffrey T Johnson

(Aunt of Gwendolyn Adesuyi)

