

12/13/16 ELDER'S MEETING OVERVIEW

A lot of things have been happening this past month. Donuts and coffee have added to the fellowship after the Sunday morning church services. Work continued on the CE restrooms. John, Tom and Mike cleared the warehouse to make more room for the **Thunderboltz** girl's baseball team (you can find them on facebook). There was a meeting with Deb about Jennifer's Harbor and a vision for the future. There were meetings with John Eastis and Rod Penrod about helping Rod's church with a skate ministry. Steve and Rod also met with the *Messiah's Misfits* about starting a motorcycle church in Decatur. John and Annette met with the elders to discuss a vision for reaching the neighborhood. A new counter top was donated for the sound board and an old counter was refurbished and was also added to that area. Decoration making was fun for all who participated and the paper snowflakes livened up the sanctuary. Guest speakers continue to be great and the concert with the Franklins was outstanding. We were saddened by the passing of Don, s nephew, Terez's father and then Beth's mother, Nancy. On the bright side, Jamil's family moved into their new home in New Haven.

As we discussed the Ridge financial situation we were very concerned about our future. We will hold to a modified budget until later in the year. As more and more of us understand tithing, the ministries of the Ridge will grow once again. Read: Gen 14:20, 28:22; Lev 27:30; 2Ch 31:5; and Mal 3:10, ***"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, 'says the Lord Almighty, 'and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."***

We discussed the plans for a pastor search committee. Ken Snyder (from the denomination office) has been guiding us in this area. Many names were suggested for this committee and we will begin talking to each. There will also be discussions with the members about individual desires and thoughts about the teaching style and personality of a new pastor.

The snow removal was a concern. The company that did it last year is not available this year. Dave has a name or two that might be available. Since the meeting Dave was able to secure a company to remove snow from the parking lot when it is 2 inches or more. We will need to set up a volunteer rotation to clear the walkways (entrances).

The marquee sign needs a volunteer to change it as needed. Perhaps the different ministries could take turns adding an announcement on the sign for their ministry.

Jenifer's Harbor is planning a "Beauty for Ashes" retreat. The elders would like to help any way we can. This sounds like a great idea. Church support and a fundraiser are in the planning.

Many other things were discussed but were tabled until we could discuss them further in the next few weeks. We will meet with Ken again next month, 1/10/17. Meetings are always open to Ridge members.