

# Gap Minutes

May 16, 2016 @ 7:00pm

## Dallas Presbyterian Church - 412 West Trade St.

Vision: Gaston Area Presbyterian Congregations working together to serve God

Mission: The mission is to support and facilitate the efforts of congregations in Gaston County in their work to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our hope in doing so is that we transform churches so that their members may find new life and new energy to respond to God's call and others will be attracted to them and their work.

### ATTENDANCE:

Fred Brown	Cherryville
Marsha Brown	Cherryville
Marsha Farrell	Cherryville
Martha Pelc	Dallas
Nina Greene	Dallas
Russ Pelc	Dallas
Beth Bolin	Gastonia
Henry Massey	Gastonia
Ken Unnasch	Long Creek
Sue Unnasch	Long Creek
Mimi McCully	Lowell & Dallas
Bryan Hovey	Mt Holly
Henry Massey	Mt Holly

Libby Sigmon	Olney
Charles Davenport	Presbytery and Long Creek
Jean Faires	Robinson
John Pea	Robinson
Bill Glover	Southminster
Joanne Mitchell	Southminster
Carolyn Carter	Third Street
Charles Whitesides	Third Street
Eddie Deas	Third Street
Elizabeth Littlejohn	Third Street
Lois Camp	Third Street
Starla Littlejohn	Third Street
Paula Wallace	West Ave

**I. Welcome and Introductions:** Mimi McCully welcomed everyone on behalf of Dallas Presbyterian at 7pm.

- April Minutes were approved. (Paula Wallace moved & Libbie Sigmon 2<sup>nd</sup>)
- Paula Wallace introduced the speaker: Rev. Dwayne Burks, Chaplain/Director of Social Responsibility at the YMCA with his task of Keeping Families in Tact.
  - Rev. Burks started his presentation by asking the group if they have ever been approached by someone begging for money.
  - There are 700 churches in Gaston County and people will go to a church asking for help in a crisis. Need to find out the root cause of the crisis in order to really help the person. Crisis Assistance agencies are designed to do a quick fix.
  - Dwayne is using The Resource Connection Gateway (through the YMCA) to attack the root cause. When someone contacts a church, the church can go to YMCA website and enter person's name, phone number & zip code. Rev. Burks receives an immediate phone message & calls the person. He vets the need. In other words if person lives in Dallas, he refers them to a local agency.
  - Then he offers person counseling which will offer a plan to move the person out of their crisis situation. The Resource Connection Gateway is funded to pay for the counselor.
  - As person progresses, they may take a 9 week class called Networx. This program brings people in where they have no resources, helps them re-shape how they look at their crisis, and restore them to abundance.
  - 400 people have come through Pilot program in 9 months. About 10% of those have chosen to attend counseling.
  - Transportation is a big problem in Gaston County. Counseling is available at any YMCA, St Mark's Church & church in Cramerton. In severe need, counselor will come to person.

- Please get this message out to your pastor & church administration. It is an alternative which will teach a “person to fish rather than giving them the fish”. When a client arrives at your church in a crisis and needs help, follow these steps:
  - Google “Gaston YMCA Gateway” or go directly to the link at <http://www.gastonymca.org/gateway/>
  - Scroll down until you see Resource Gateway Portal. Select the link “Click [HERE](#) to refer someone to the Resource Connection Gateway”.
  - Enter the client’s name, phone #, zip, and a few other fields and select Submit.
  - Inform the client that someone will be contacting them by phone shortly.
  - Refer to handouts “NetworX Information” and Resource Connection Gateway Flyer”.
- Question about using phone number 211. This is a comprehensive resource guide. Go to <http://unitedwaygaston.org/> and from the Menu select Get Help – United Way 2-1-1.

## II. Presbytery News – Charles Davenport

- Four people from GAP are in Malawi this week out of 9 participants.
- Hope Campaign – important that each individual see the material & respond to the campaign (lack \$800,000 from goal). If you have not seen the brochure at your church, please go to your pastor & Session & ask for the brochure.
- Board of Pensions meeting – Wednesday May 18 at West Ave from 2-4. For ministers, there is complete coverage through Board of Pensions. BOP is offering benefits to lay staff.

## III. Other reports and items

- Vacation Bible School – please email dates, times & program name to Joanne Mitchell by June 3 and she will compile & email out to GAP distribution.
- Pulpit Swap –John Pea
  - After discussion, Paula Wallace moved that we wait a year, second by Eddie Deas. Approved.
- Habitat Update – Bill Glover
  - House will probably be on Pryor Street.
- Guatemala – Beth Bolin
  - Churches are invited to learn more about the Guatemala partnerships. Meetings are from 3 to 4:30pm on Sunday, June 5 at Valdese or Sunday June 12 in Asheville. (see attached: An Invitation Guatemala Partnership)
  - Guatemala is interested in relationships with our churches. Beth has a sample letter (see attached: Letter For Regular Communication with Sister Church) that any church could send to their sister church in order to build a better relationship.
  - Beth still needs informational sheet GAP members received at March meeting. Dallas, First Gastonia, & Southminster are only churches to respond so far.
- Sunday School/Small Group literature – recycled – Libby Sigmon
  - Curriculum & technology committee at Presbytery will work on this
- GAP churches supporting First Gastonia in their second consecutive week with Family Promise by supplying dinner for the evenings of May 22-28. Paula Wallace
  - Molly heard from all the churches that were on the list & they have responded to deliver the meal. As of 5/16/16 there are 4 adults, 6 children & 9 month old.
- AED –Mimi McCully
  - Cherryville – still not sure. Robinson interested. Long Creek purchased one for \$2300 from AED Superstore.

#### **IV. Announcements**

- Fred Brown – will not need a lung transplant & thanks everyone for their prayers.
- Paula Wallace –Belmont & West Ave are jointly working on a mission project for youth called CHRISTrek– Walking with Christ, walking with Others – opportunity for youth to serve. GAP Youth will be taking part around Oct/Nov.
- GAP Youth had successful cookout a few weeks ago. About 60 attended (30 youth/30 adults)
- Lowell Chicken Pot Pie – last one of the season is first Friday in June
- Saturday, June 11 Men of the Church car show at Robinson with a Yard Sale same day.
- Ken Unnasch, Wanda Murchison, & Joanne Mitchell attended a Mission Trip in Columbia, SC May 1-6. 494 houses left to renovate. Presbytery may do another one in Fall. Anyone interested in a GAP Mission Trip?
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Street pantry opens on Wednesday, May 18. Last lunch & learn on active shooter went well.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:19.

**Next Meeting – First Presbyterian Gastonia 1621 East Garrison Blvd. – 7pm - Monday, June 20, 2016 in the parlor** (park in front of church facing Garrison Blvd). Beth Bolin will moderate.

**To: Church Administrative Assistants**

RE: GAP Information for Church Bulletin or Newsletter



In an effort to keep churches aware of how they can become involved in a service project, please include the following information in your church communication at the appropriate time and as you have room to include. In order for GAP announcements to be easily recognized, please include the GAP logo beside each announcement. Suggested times to include the information are noted in red. Thanks!

**For newsletter week of May 22 or 29. A flyer is attached to email if you have room to include.**

The Presbyterian Church of Lowell, Men of the Church will have their last Chicken Pot Pies for the season available on Friday, June 3.

**For newsletter week of May 29 or June 5. A flyer is attached to email if you have room to include.**

Saturday, June 11 the Men of the Church at Robinson Presbyterian will host a car show with a Yard Sale same day.

**Vacation Bible School dates for all GAP churches will be emailed out in early June if you will email Joanne your dates, times, & program.**