Roll Call-

Present were Jason Hoy, Mark Culton, Dick Bickings, Carl Cassell (invited guest), Shawn Sommons, Wayne Batten, Mike Capaldi (teleconference), Andy Brimer

Devotion-

Pastor Dick Bickings led a review and discussion on Article 4, God the Son, from the BFC Faith & Order.

Prayer-

The men shared in a time of prayer and thanksgiving.

Approval of Minutes-

Motion was made to approve the minutes from March 14th Board of Elders meeting, seconded and approved.

Discussion Items-

- 1) <u>Carl Cassel</u> was invited to the Elders Meeting to discuss how he can support the leadership of Ebenezer (Pastors & Elders) through his wisdom and experience.
 - Carl gave a brief ministry history that he has had in the BFC denomination.
 - Ministry since 1955
 - o Paradise BFC was his first church pastoral assignment
 - Went to Coopersburg, Calvary BFC
 - o Hatfield
 - Bethel Allentown
 - o Pinebrook Jr. College taught 22 yrs
 - Stroudsburg
 - o Retired and moved to Coopersburg
 - Has helped Nazareth, Coopersburg, Quakertown
 - Currently teaches SS (~1/month), preaches occasionally (~1 out of 6-8 weeks),
 visiting up to 15 hrs a week now hospital, shut-ins, younger people discipleship,
 - The Board discussed potential Role/Responsibilities for Carl which included participation in Board meetings, staff meetings and individual mentoring time with the Pastors. We agreed to finalize our request for Carl's support and time and send to him as a recommendation. Carl will seek approval from the elders he currently serves as well as the denomination.
 - Upon agreement of the arrangement, we would like to ask Carl to preach one sermon by way of an introduction and possibly other times as needed.
 - We agree that Carl will be a blessing to us on important matters/decisions as well as a more visible representative from the BFC to the congregation.
 - Carl led us in prayer before being excused from the rest of the meeting.
- 2) <u>Sanctuary Upgrade Announcement</u> All feedback has been positive since our announcement of the sanctuary plans for this summer.
- 3) Special Congregational Meeting
 - The agenda for the meeting is near completion.
 - Andy Brimer will present the divorce issue and allow for a time of questions and answers.

4) PRC Report

The committee met to discuss compensation for Jason for the six-month period with his
additional responsibilities. The recommendation by the PRC was to compensate Jason an
additional \$5000 for the six month interim assignment. This recommendation was based on

- an analysis of the current budgeted Senior Pastor salary and a fair application of that to Jason's role and experience.
- Motion was made to increase Pastor Jason's compensation by \$400/pay period (\$5200) across the six months made retroactive back to February 14th when the assignment began, seconded and approved. (Jason abstained from voting)

5) <u>Elder Retreat</u>

- The elders agreed that we would benefit by taking time to fellowship together during a weekend retreat.
- Possibly June 10-11 or 17-18, Mark will check on availability and location.

6) Wednesday Night Dinners

- As a follow-up to previous suggestions, this idea was one of many to allow the congregation
 to come together on a regular basis to fellowship together and share a meal. The main goal
 is to support unity of the church and to allow people to grow relationships.
- We also realize that such endeavors are not always easy to plan and sustain nor should we
 assume that it is what people desire. Therefore, we will poll some of the ministry leaders
 and staff for their thinking about this idea. We will ask for their input on timing as well.
- 7) <u>By-Laws</u> The edits are in-process. Wayne met with Bruce Eckel and worked out those sections related to Deacons.

8) Prime-Timer Idea

- Recently, some of the Members of the Prime-timers were exposed to a method used in another church for caring for people and following up with visitation. The concept utilizes a stuffed teddy bear placed in each pew to communicate care, love and compassion to the recipient. A request was made to Pastor Jason to adopt a similar practice at Ebenezer. Our goal is to communicate care, love, and compassion to everyone in the pew; however, we don't think this method will work for our particular demographic. However, we think it could be a good idea to take teddy bears to shut-ins or when doing hospital visits.
- We do thank them for bringing this suggestion to us.

Additional Items-

- 1) <u>Dan Allen</u> will preach and promote Pinebrook week on Sunday, May 1st.
- 2) <u>Membership</u> Lee Ciccotelli's application for membership was reviewed. **Motion** was made to accept Lee as a member into EBFC, seconded and passed.

Prayer-

Shawn Sommons closed in prayer.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Capaldi

Secretary to the Board of Elders