

## DEACONS MEETING MINUTES

2/6/2025

**PRESENT VIRTUALLY:** David Jones, Host and Facilitator, Judy Haupt, Scribe, Wendy Pree, Caroline Mack, Leslie Fraser, Kare Marshall, Alice Barrett, Margaret Boone, Berkeley McChesney (WELCOME!)

**OPENING PRAYER:** Caroline

**REVIEW OF MINUTES:** Approved with corrections

**PRAYER CARDS:** Allen Gabriel, TY for FD volunteering > Alice

Bruce, Diana Bennett, Get well for grandson, Noah and Daughter Jessie > Berkeley

Diane L., Mom quite ill, Nephew Conner, better > Berkeley Ann C., Sister ill > Wendy

Virginia W. TY for bulletin efforts amidst MAJOR house troubles > Leslie

Ted, Brother David has passed > Kare

Stein, ongoing eye recovery > Caroline

April West, Awaiting her pacemaker fix > Kare

Satch, TY for a wonderful sermon > Caroline

Larie Francis, Many losses with now an orphaned 16 yo > Leslie

Nancy Marshall and Russ Loomis, Concerns for trans relatives Sunny and Ethan > Kare

Joe Botelho, Cancer Care > Wendy

Wayne W., Cancer care > Caroline

**DAVID'S UPDATE:** 1) Meg and Margery's reviews are done and signed. Things are "going well" with the music Minstrels. Meg is finding her way, has some ideas for non hymnal type songs which turn out to be quite popular with the Congregation. Margery continues to express her concerns with her budget going forward with ever increasing costs of music and wishing to hire outside musicians. Applying for Grants to support outside music programs are suggested, albeit, some applications are time consuming for her to do. David has been in discussion with both re: Lenten Music.

2) Deacons access to the Spread Sheet – David has sent out the sheet on a Google Doc.

3) Tom Mc.'s service > Sat., May 10 with the reception at Gloria's.

4) Indigenous Acknowledgement: A recent meeting in Town with Double Edge staff, the Ohketeau Cultural Center and many Town folk revealed a possibility of reopening discussions with 1<sup>st</sup> Church and an Acknowledgement. Judy H. representing Parks and as Deacon and Alex Osterman representing the Energy Committee were there and could foster a relationship that is not labeled as "White Guilt" with the new director Larry

Spotted Man. \*\*Judy will reach out to those who showed interest in the past to gather again to work on this project > Leslie, Rochelle, Holly, Sherrill, Alex and Missions.

5) Church closing with expected big storm this Sat. Nite. The closing protocol has been shared and Hetty was on for the sermon. \*\*David will discuss the situation with Hetty and Virginia, Choir is prepared to postpone their music, Wendy will send a post to her list to watch for plans for Sunday, including NO service and NO ZOOM and Virginia to send out the Bulletin with big letters at the top "NO SERVICE" today pending \*\*David making the call @ 2PM on Sat. The radio stations will be notified along with the ZOOM gals, etc.

6) Worship Team – has not met formerly due to David's time constraints, but worship planning is happening piecemeal as needed.

**PASTORAL COVERAGE:** 2/23 > \*\* Leslie will do service, sermon and provide emergency coverage for that week, starting 2/17.

**DEACON COVERAGE:** Berkeley will begin to shadow the Deacon of the Day.

Feb. > Caroline  
March 2 > Communion Sunday, Wendy and Judy  
March 9 > Wendy  
March 16,23,30 > Leslie (to be confirmed)  
April > Alice

**DEACON ISSUES:** 1) Welcome All Banner – Stein has floated some design patterns and awaits some info from UCC. Our goal must be clarified – targeting Immigrants or ALL? \*\* David to check in with Missions re: goals. Met with some concerns of being too broad, possibly giving the impression of abandoning immigrants, etc. Kare expresses the need for urgency, given the political situation that changes and threatens vulnerable folks everyday. Stein will present to Missions (meeting next week) and Church Council.

2) Sunday School – Curriculum, "Seasons of the Spirit" is missing and may be in Deacons' Closet. 2<sup>nd</sup> person needs to be added to comply with Safe Church Policy. Hiring Abby Osterman to organize and teach from the curriculum discussed but she is underage, would have to undergo a CORI check. Hetty and Ann Larson have been CORIED but now have conflicts and cannot do SS. Others that may help out are Berkeley, Wendy and Satch on nonchoir Sundays but no one has been consistently identified who would meet the criteria and willing to do this job. ? Sue Fuller. We have the budget of \$500 to pay. Robin Wilson is organizing a game nite. \*\* David and \*\*Wendy to meet and discuss.

3) Coffee Hour: Happening piecemeal (pun?) when no organized group is ON. No further time spent on this ongoing and forever issue. Pursue idea of "JUST COFFEE"

4) Pulpit Supply Payouts: We are woefully underpaying REAL ministers @ \$250/ sermon as the norm is anywhere from \$300-500. We are set for lay ministers for the next 6 months.

5) Stewardship: Concerns with Allen G. volunteering for so much when he will not be so available in the summer. Deacons invited to double dip with stewardship committee with no response.

6) Lent: Starts March 5! Church Décor discussed including a purple cloth draped over the pulpit. Ideas for the sanctuary welcome for post meeting discussions. Nancy Marshall is working on a peace banner. Artists in the Congregation can be consulted. Stations of the cross have been used in other churches, hang the prayer flags from Fall Festival, photos and art depicting Jesus.

\*\* Indicates an Action Plan

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Leslie

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:** Judy Haupt

**NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, March 6 @ 7PM. Weather decides if in person or ZOOM