

DEACONS MEETING MINUTES

2/5/2026

PRESENT: In person > David Jones, Facilitator, Bruce Bennett, Caroline Mack, Judy Haupt, Scribe. Leslie Fraser, Kare Marshall, Margeret Boone, Alice Barrett, Berkeley McChesney by ZOOM

OPENING PRAYER: Leslie

REVIEW MINUTES of 1/7/2026: Approved with a correction > Alice's offer to edit David's sermons was in Jest

PRAYER CARDS: Marie F. > Many family members with health issues > Judy

Brenda McGovern > Heart/diabetes issues > Berkeley Sherrill > Palestine House of Worship under threat and friend Paki, in a great deal of pain > Bruce

Annie B's daughter in Portland dealing with ICE in her school > Caroline

Annette, ZOOM Czar – TY > Leslie

Alice's Neighbor > Alice

Diane L's Mom – dying in Fla. > Leslie

Bill Bower's sister > facing serious surgery > Bruce

Alan Lilly > recent fall and pneumonia > Judy

DAVID'S UPDATE: 1) Meeting same nite as Trustees > not possible

2) Sermon length – Will be mindful going forward without Alice's help!

3) New Member Classes: Barbara Rowe, ? Susie Chandler, ? Nancy Sykes. ** David to check with Wendy and Virginia re: classes with goal of a celebration on Palm Sunday, March 29.

4) Worship Team: Meeting on Jan. 18 happened with only Leslie and Brie with a little bit of David. Focus will be on making arrangements for David's Parental Leave. Spread sheet is ready to go. Team will consult the TT survey as to what folks want in a service. They will sort out Team members particular roles and Leslie has asked David for an official blessing with a litany prior to his Paternity Leave. Next Meeting 2/15. Alice and Berkeley on the fence re: becoming official members.

5) Meg/ Margery's Reviews > Scheduled

6) Transformation Team: 4 areas IDed > Spiritual Identity, Community Collaboration, Church Community Life, Part Time Minister (with budgetary implications. Next church wide meeting > 2/22 and Team to

decide who will direct, what format will the discussions happen and who will scribe. Lite refreshments with an extended coffee hour is planned.

7) Apartheid Free Pledge taken, but what does that mean in terms of an action plan? Focus going forward is to educate per Sherrill, Liz and Nancy S. re the Israel/Palestine issue

8) Lent: Theme > "Love Has No Borders". Decision made for no ashes on Ash Wed.

PASTORAL COVERAGE: David will take time off for Presidents' Week (Feb.16) which not affect Pulpit Supply or need for emergency coverage.

DEACON COVERAGE: March 1, Communion Sunday > Judy and Margaret
8, Alice
15, Caroline
22, Kare
29, Judy

DEACONS ISSUES: 1) Helping Hands: Margaret and Ann will set up dinners for Jones/Mans household for David's Parental Leave.

2) Advent Protocol Review: Kare will research a little torch for the Advent Wreath.

3) Bylaws: These will be written as a product of the Transformation Process – as a reflection of the wishes of the church members and non members. Trustee Ted responds that they think that bylaws should be revised by a majority of Deacons and Trustees but open to others as well.

4) Flags: Lengthy discussion on our being brave in our stance on being accepting of "others". Important now than ever to get our emigration banner up and get a new Rainbow flag. Asking Nancy Marshall to make one with UV resistant cloth to withstand the south facing church façade? All agreed this is a Missions and SJ project that has fallen aside. All agreed it is an urgent need. ** Bruce and Kare will take this on. Another idea is to install a flag pole for the flag(s) but the frozen ground will delay such a project until Spring. And the pole would possibly interfere with FF tent placement.

5) Lent: Theme accepted, see above. Color for Lent is purple and Church will be decorated like last year. WHO? We still have Berkeley's purple cranes. And we can paint little rocks again with messages.

6) Red Hat Project: The majority of the Elder Group support knitting red hats with "Ice Out" slogan (or something similar) to raise \$ for the Minnesotans or similar entities. The issue is brought to the Deacons for discussion re: doing this as a Church Sponsored project or knitters doing this on their own. Margaret has bought out all the red yarn in NoHo and beyond and has enough for 20 hats. **Judy agreed to contact her neighbor who dies wool (done and bought 6 skeins at a discount). Trustees

to be consulted and the Church Council for their blessing as a heartfelt thing to do for humanity. Also discussed was sending out postcards to registered Democrats who have not voted in a while. Very politically targeted issue and probably would not be appropriate for a Church sponsored activity.

7) Painting Friendship Hall: Patricia D. will meet with Randy G. and Wendy after Church this Sunday.

CLOSING PRAYER: Leslie

** Indicates an action plan

RESECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Judy Haupt, Scribe

NEXT MEETING: March 5, 2026 @ 7PM,? Hybrid