

October 10, 2021 Minutes of Deacons Meeting

Deacons and Staff Attending:

Present: Beth Case, Dick Harris, Jan Tomlinson, Jane Henson, Beverly Fluke, Marsha Timby, Christine Gentil, Jo Ballard, Sharon Fox, Andre Verona, Danielle Schindler, Rebecca Davis, Harvey Trammell, Jan Tomlinson, Stephanie Peters, Brenda Vega, Mona Williams, and Mike Kelly

Absent: John Yochum and Stephanie Peters

Opening Prayer/Devotional:

The Opening Prayer and devotional were presented by Marsha Timby and focused on helping others as they Journey through grief. Her excellent presentation provided an insightful view of what to say and what not to say to comfort a grieving person. Marsha's talk featured a number of communication and comfort offering approaches from Kenneth Haugk and the Stephen Ministry. It generated a very fruitful discussion. It also provided a lead into a discussion of the upcoming Stephen Ministry training sessions.

Updates on MDPC:

Beth Case discussed the 7 new Deacon Positions, praying for the new class, and attributes to emphasize in developing a Deacon culture.

Ministry Updates:

Calls and Card Writing: Jane Henson spoke about the many functions of the card writing and telephone calling ministry including efforts to reach out during the pandemic, caring ministry cards and calls, notes to high school seniors, handwritten notes to hospitalized members, and letters of condolence regarding deaths in the family.

Memorial Services: Mona Williams described their efforts in support of memorial services that had increased in number as result of the opportunity to conduct memorial services that had been delayed by the Covid restrictions. Their work included providing a warm and comforting environment and helping to direct people.

Memorial Receptions: Jo Ballard offered information on how Memorial Receptions strives to comfort and take the burden off the bereaved family by taking care of the details of the reception, food services, clean-up, packing up the extra food, and filling in where needed.

Ministry Opportunities.

Beth Case emphasized the many opportunities identified in the ministry discussions and also alerted us to the upcoming Blue Christmas. An invitation was extended to the deacons (and anyone they

would like to invite) to the “Lunch and Learn” on October 24th concerning becoming a member of the Stephen Ministry.

Rebecca Davis suggested that the Deacons as a group join one of the weekly prayer sessions for Alpha.

The Closing Prayer was delivered by Mike Kelly and was followed by a breakout into small groups to discuss further ministry sharing and prayer needs.

Respectfully Submitted.

Mike Kelly