

Diaconate Meeting Minutes

June 11, 2018

The Diaconate is responsible for the spiritual guidance, special services and liturgies of the Church and will assist the Minister(s) with same. We seek to foster a close spiritual relationship between home and church.

The Opening Prayer was done by Rev. Kathy. She asked that God be present with our small but mighty group and that God's will be known.

Motion to accept the Minutes of May 14, 2018 was made by Debbie and seconded by Leslie. All felt it was God's will and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion to accept the Financial report below was made by Ian and seconded by Susan. All felt it was God's will and the motion passed unanimously.

a. 2018 Diaconate Operating Budget: \$4,074

YTD Expenses: \$1,697.45

YTD Balance: \$2,376.55

b. Home Benevolent Fund:

YTD Balance \$16,635.22

YTD Income: \$595.19 YTD Expenses: \$350.00

a. Memorial Fund:

YTD Balance: \$5,580.88

YTD Income: \$100

YTD Expenses: \$1,770.00

\$100 Donation in memory of Marilyn P.

b. Seminary Fund (Hull/Latham Trust): YTD Balance: \$6,780.22 (\$4,000 restricted)

YTD Income: (62.00)

YTD Expenses: \$1,580.52

-62.00 investment account

c. Herbie Knight III Fund:

YTD Balance: \$3,920.06

YTD Income: 0

YTD Expenses: \$250.00

Sanctuary use requests:

a. **Motion to accept the Sanctuary use** by Ian D. Eagle Scout ceremony, June 30th, 5:00 pm was made by Leslie and seconded by Susan. All felt it was God's will and the motion passed unanimously.

b. Baptismal requests:

- June 17th, at 11:30, Deacons not required
- June 24th, two scheduled at 10:00 service deacons required*
- June 25th, 11:30, Deacons requested (child of fellow deacon Jessie D)*
- July 15th, scheduled at 10:00 service, deacons required*

Thanks for being present tonight and always!

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- July 15th, two scheduled at 11:30

*sign up on google sheets, also encouraged to assist in any/all 11:30 baptismal services

- c. **Sign-up Sheets:** Much appreciation to all who are able to serve and also able to attend services. PLEASE don't be shy, if you have not served recently, we want you back! Please see the current sign-ups distributed; on-line and also placed on Diaconate door.

7:15 - 7:30 pm: Ministers Report: What is God Calling Us to Do?

Rev. Jay was on vacation 6/8- 6/16/18 and on sabbatical July 16- Aug 16th.

Rev. Kathy: Spoke about the new date for Café Conversations which will be happening on June 12th.

- a. She spoke about the formation of a Communications & Technology Team to look at the Office technology to make sure we are working efficiently and are able to access information regardless of computer. The Communications piece will be to look at the bulletin, emails, social media and the database.
- b. The air conditioning is not working in the Main House and 2 out of 3 units in the Meeting House are not functioning as well.
- c. Sherri P. is leaving on June 29th. The Trustees are looking at options to replace Sherri with a cleaning company and are currently getting prices.
- d. Also with Pam and Heidi leaving the church school there needs to be some movement on either finding a volunteer which isn't seemingly going to happen or to put it out as a paid position.
- e. Kathy discussed her vacation time from June 28th until July 7th as well as in August 6th - August 24th. ; pulpit coverage required as Rev. Jay will be gone for a portion of the same period.
- f. Taize services will not continue through the summer but will pick back up in September.

New Business:

1. Conversation centered on Chapter 2.
 - a. Steve started the conversation by saying he feels we are indeed a blessed church; we just need to be reminded and "toot our own horn" so to speak now and again.
 - b. Debbie said she would like us to think outside the box for positive change; she spoke of hearing Rev. Kathy do a sermon for the search committee and was so inspired and loved her approach. She would like to see Kathy add more of that energy into her services.
 - Lorinda also spoke of the length of the welcomes and concerns. It's almost 10:15 before the service actually starts and then you have to catch yourself and start to pay attention because she tends to tune out.

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- All enthusiastically agreed to give our support to Rev. Kathy as she invokes some changes into the worship service starting with incorporating the Welcomes and Concerns into her call to worship and to then go right into the service with excitement and energy to keep everyone inspired.

Senior deacons will reach out to those who are already signed up, starting June 17 - Aug 5th. We're going to try it out and will discuss the incremental change at our next meeting, Aug 20th (also a date change), at 320 High Hill Rd.

- Additional discussion on change centered on engaging the congregation more by changing the music; many expressed dissatisfaction with using the black hymnal; Debbie suggested adding more contemporary music, example blend some newer music with the older music (one song traditional, next song newer); to feel inspired. The Music Committee, by the by-laws, is under the Diaconate, so Senior deacons we will forward this item along to the Music Committee.
- Rev. Kathy has some great ideas about keeping the congregation engaged and we as a group encouraged her to try some and see how they work. The Diaconate stands firmly behind her.
- Meeting location: We agreed to relocate to an area that is warmer/more inviting and spiritual; with the exception of the Aug meeting (in which case we will enjoy all the beauty provided by God through nature), we will meet in the Meeting House.

2. There was no update on Stephens Ministry/Visitation

3. Silver Lake update: Ellie and Steve participated in the Golf Tournament to benefit Silver Lake on June 5th. They spoke with a Moderator from another church and briefly touched on items we might want to discuss further: changing the nomination cycle to June/July (Rev. Kathy added that Kathy F. has supported changing the budget year to end June 30th); paid position for Christian Ed Director

4. Workcamp Update - Cookies are due July 7th, dropped off in the church kitchen. There were 54 Homes selected for repair; 43 in Wallingford

Council items: (see Rev. Kathy comments Sexton and Christian Ed)

a. Scholarship Sunday, 6/17 followed by Ice Cream Social in congregational hall

Next meeting: August 20th 7:00 - 8:30 pm * located at 320 High Hill Rd *

Homework: Chapter 3 and 4 for discussion on August 20th, NO July meeting

8:30 Closing Prayer, led by Steve Hazelwood

Motion to Adjourn

6/12/14 Electronic discussion and Motion: MOTION: Request from Eric" Motion to use \$350 from the Memorial Fund to purchase the software license required to use the new video mixing capability".

Second: Ellie

ALL: "IF you feel this is what God is calling us to do, please Reply YES"

Motion passed

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