

## Deacon Meeting Minutes

January, 2024

Present: Karen Austin, Nancy Blurton, Penny Bryant, Beth Case, Beverly Fluke, Christine Gentil, Judy Gordon, Sarah Kilgore, John LaCarter, Edneia Moreira, Nancy Powell, Kathy Redden, CC Roberts, Christine Roskamp, Lisa Shelfer, Judy Stockton, Laura Tingleaf, Suzanne Tobin, Andy Udden, Brenda Vega, Sue Warren, Paul Whelchel.

Absent: Rodrigo Grassano, Dave Harkins, Jim Newlin.

Welcome: Lisa Shelfer welcomed everyone, especially the new Deacons for 2026. She acknowledged past and upcoming birthdays, and gave the blessing for lunch.

Introduction and Ice Breaker: Beth Case asked each of us to consider who we are as Deacons and what we are doing together. She then asked each Deacon to introduce themselves, their area of service and one thing that was important to them from the past five years.

Devotional and Prayer: Lisa Shelfer read a devotional around Colossians 4:2. If we pray persistently not only will we move God's heart, but hopefully our hearts will be prepared to recognize His answers.

Session Report: Kathy Redden announced that we have 29 new covenant partners. This is a change from being called new members. She also announced the new elected officers for Session. She reported that the Generosity Report is going well. We still need more pledges. The Legacy Funding passed two motions: New furniture will be purchased for both the Nook and the Narthex outside the Sanctuary. And two outdoor Pickleball Courts will be put in. The Master Plan will be revisited and the housing allowance for the ordained staff was approved.

Announcements: Beverly Fluke reminded everyone that our usual meeting date is the second Sunday of each month, with a few exceptions, and there will be no meetings the months of June and July. Our next meeting will be Sunday, February 11, 2024.

### Ministry Snapshots:

Judy Stockton announced that the next Coming of Age series will be Wednesday, January 24, 2024, 6:30 pm in the Summit Room. Dave Harkins and his team will be discussing financial planning.

Sue Warren asked for anyone wanting to help with usher memorial services to let her know.

Christine Gentil asked if everyone was receiving their daily emails from the Caring Ministries Office. There should be two each day requesting prayers.

Brenda Vega announced the Women's Retreat will be February 9. Also, in order to expand connection between the women of all three MDPC congregations, there will be "A Night Together" held November 7, 2024.

### Discussion:

Beth led us in a discussion of occupation versus vocation and how they can overlap but not always. We broke up into groups to talk about our calling, what "irks you", world needs and needs of our community.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Stockton