

**NEXT DEACONS MEETING
TUESDAY MARCH 7, 2017 at 6:00PM
OFFICE AREA**

**CHURCH OF THE COVENANT
DEACONS MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 7, 2017**

Present: Renee Boykin, Matthew Garrett, Marjie Hines, Beth Holbein, Susan Klein, Ed Laylin, Cathy Luck, Reaver Nelson, Mildred Russin, Liz Shriver, Norma Shuskey, Ann Stark; Staff: Melanie Baum

Absent: Stephanie Finkenthal, Stephanie Johnson, Pat Keltner, Cheri Keyes, Dick Miller, Donna Prease

At 6:00pm the meeting was opened with a prayer by Liz Shriver.

OLD BUSINESS

Many Thank You cards were shared. There were cards from recipients of flowers, recipients of Christmas gifts and families who had a memorial service hosted by the Deacons.

The minutes from the December 6, 2016 meeting were moved to be approved by Ann Stark and seconded by Mildred Russin. Minutes approved without any changes.

Budget report:

Income for 2017:

Deacons - \$1,500

Hospitality - \$4,500

Gift from Trustees - \$579.79

(This is a one-time gift; it is the remaining money from a fund that Chuck Langmack used to provide the monthly member breakfasts.)

Expenses for December 2016:

- Gifts for Shut-ins - \$184
Many thanks were given to Norma Shuskey for organizing and providing the supplies, including cutting the many circles of cloth.
- Gifts to Cleveland School of the Arts (CSA) - \$305
Many thanks were given to Marjie Hines for organizing and delivering gifts in red backpacks/ bags. Seventy-five (75) bags were given to CSA. Renee, from CSA, reported that gifts were greatly appreciated by the students! CSA determined students who were most in need and were recipients of the gifts.

DISCUSSION: 2017 Christmas gifts/ Giving Tree organizations (replacing Goodrich Gannett): Melanie Baum conveyed that Benjamin Rose would be excited to work with us on gifts for their seniors. Matthew Garrett suggested that we explore other groups at CSA in an effort to continue the relationship with the school. People wondered, and it will be explored, if there is a possibility of having two trees, one for each group.

Receptions

- After Service Receptions
Stephanie Johnson has had surgery. She is the contact Deacon for March receptions. The group offered help to the March sub-committee if they think it would be helpful.
- Memorial Service Receptions
There was a mishap with cookies that were donated for Ed Pembroke's memorial. Not all cookie plates were labeled for use at his memorial and they were placed in various locations. In the future, it was noted that donors should be asked to label their donations with the purpose of the donation and suggest a central area. Deacons were able to purchase other cookies and Ed's memorial reception went well.

Flowers

All appears to be going well. Cathy Luck reported that she will be out of town the 4th Sunday in February and that Julie Mailey will handle the flowers.

Upstairs Refrigerator Update (small refrigerator in the kitchen that is broken)

Ed Laylin found a replacement for \$279. Melanie talked with the trustees who indicated that Deacons could purchase this. The money for the refrigerator will be used from the \$579.79 one-time grant. Ed and Melanie will work with Willie Howard on the purchase and installation.

NEW BUSINESS

Staff Report: Melanie Baum

Melanie said that some of her report has already been covered (including Christmas gifts for CSA and upstairs refrigerator). She asked that the Deacons consider some new projects that had been discussed in the Staff Meeting:

- Easter Breakfast – helping with set up, serving and clean-up
 - Discussed and decided that rather than a breakfast possibly cooked by Covenant Chefs as the student brunch is the same date, Deacons provide a modified reception.
- Easter Egg Hunt for Sunday school – helping with hiding eggs, etc. on the front lawn
 - Discussed and Reaver Nelson will contact Mindy and look at recruiting parents and teachers to help with hiding the eggs.
- Care Packages for Case students during exams (5/1 – 5/12)
 - Discussed and Deacons feel that this is a project that can be coordinated by them. Melanie to talk with Kevin Lowry re: contents of care packages, quantity of care packages, etc.

Class of 2020

At the May 2017 Deacons Meeting there will be pot luck dinner, welcoming of new Deacons to the board and saying thank you to Deacons who are rotating off the board.

- New Deacons: Tom Denbow, Julie Mailey, Lucy Matz, Nancy Matz, Portia Smith
- Retiring Deacons: Renee Boykin, Ed Laylin, Donna Preases

Session Representatives needed (meetings start at 7:00 pm)

February 22 – Marjie volunteered

March 22 – Cathy volunteered

Deacon on Nominating Committee

Norma urged that members think about this opportunity and let her know if they are interested. She needs a decision by May meeting.

Spring Responsibilities

Covenant Classics - Ann Stark proposed the Think Box with lunch at the Tink.

- The Think Box is an Innovation Center on Case campus
- Lunch at the Tink may depend on what restaurants are open on Saturday vs. another restaurant on Case campus
- Possibly 4/22/17
- 25 people max per tour
- Transportation - suggested possibly working with Case to see whether they could donate use of a shuttle
- Cost – tbd

OTHER BUSINESS

None

The meeting was closed at 6:50pm with prayer by Reaver.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Luck