

Deacons' of the Whole Minutes
January 13, 2014

Present: J Gomez, K Middleton, J Stensrud, T Brown, B Rickert, C Gowan, T Gowan, D Beshears, K Bowerman, G Yingling, M Carr, D Schreiner, W Hammen, P Eshelman, A Schwister, L Larson, S Kardel, E Schmidt, R Kane, J Roseman, D Hickenbottom, S Earp

Excused: S Sherwood

Opening Devotions-Jeff Gomez

Snacks—Deb Beshears

Guest Speaker—Ann Ring from Christian Care - invited by Ted Brown, Outreach Committee

Located in Rock Island, they offer shelters for men, women and children, serving homeless men, mentally ill, veterans and abused women and their children. They are their own entity, not affiliated with Churches United or any specific church. Their assistance is intended to be long-term with an emphasis on helping people transition back to permanent housing and independence. They assist with the goals their residents set and support them by connecting to the many area agencies. We donated to them in the past but are not currently financially supporting them.

Sign-up sheets were passed for opening/closing devotions, snacks, communion servers for Feb 2, Salvation Army meal service, Communion to the Furthest Pew, and rides to church for the McDonald's.

December 2013 minutes will be reviewed at the February meeting.

Correspondence

- Thank you from AMKA Africa for \$1,000 donation
- Thank you from Churches United for financial support
- Thank you from Camp Wyoming for financial support

Deacons introduced themselves to each other by going around the table.

Executive Committee Report

- Green envelope giving was \$299 under budget for 2013.
- Budget committee has been very diligent about reviewing where we spend our money and is scrutinizing all items in the proposed budget. Currently, we are about \$21,000 short of what we need for 2014. Committee will be meeting again Wednesday, January 15.
- Boys and Girls Club grant—word was received that awarded from the Bechtel Trust in a second round. They will receive \$25,000. FPC is being used as a pass through account for this award and will be presented to them on Wednesday, January 15.
- Night at the Shelter funds being collected. They need \$820/night.
- Church end of the year actual was met with \$4,000 in the black.

Outreach Committee

- Donated 49 backpacks and lots of socks to the Boys and Girls Club in December.
- Angel Tree—69 FPC families shopped for 68 families (171 children); 30 people delivered Christmas gifts
- Food pantry ended the year short of their goal on food items. Their \$4,000 goal of money was surpassed with \$5283.
- Salvation Army meal site served only 28 people on Monday, January 6 due to the extreme cold.

Pastoral Care and Spiritual Development

- All committees filled. Men's retreat and Women's retreat could each use 1 more person.
- Gail Yingling will represent PCSD on the endowment fund.
- Women's Retreat sign-ups will start January 19. Retreat will be held Feb 28-March 2.

Mission Connection

- Giving Tree collected \$2,190
- AMKA Afrika will use funds for a van
- Alice Chikomo will receive \$550.
- ILUGUA will receive funds for 2 more water systems.

Deacons' Endowment Fund Committee

Endowment fund is a restricted fund providing grant funds for new mission projects. To qualify, the project must have matching funds, be a local mission and have a connection to FPC. Proposals may be submitted from March 15-May 15.

Other business

- We need a secretary!
- Due to gun violence, Richard Miller visited with Ted Brown and asked for a preliminary interest level from Deacons in holding candlelight vigils in a visible location to draw attention to the issue. He will be talking with PUNCH and other neighboring churches to find out their interest level. A discussion was held with some questions and request for a format being requested.
- January 19 is our 175th Anniversary—Heritage Committee is promoting and wants us to come to one of the 2 services (8:45 or 10), the ACE presentation by the Heritage Committee and the 11:00a birthday party. Visitors are welcome.

Staff Report – No staff report

Deacon rep at January 20 Session meeting—Jeff Gomez

Feb 10 opening/closing devotions—LaWanda Roudebush

Feb 10 snacks—Bruce Rickert

Closing prayer—Jeff Gomez

Submitted by:
Kathy Middleton