

# Webster Presbyterian Church

## Board of Deacons Meeting Minutes

### June 4, 2015

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(Refreshments provided courtesy of Jeanette Schwarz and Shari McIntosh)

1. Opening. The meeting was opened with a devotional and prayer led by Olive Thunyani.
2. Moments of Faith – Rev. Keith Uffman shared his family history and experiences in ministry. His daughter Gracie is currently serving in the Peace Corps in Mozambique working with women's health issues. All of his children were encouraged to participate in service overseas. Daughter Molly is in Zimbabwe teaching in an orphanage. His daughter Christy is a PICU nurse in North Carolina. His wife, Mary Helen, is preparing for the move to Houston. She is coordinating the very large task of closing her teaching career, coordinating the house sale and move, caring for her father and daughters. As anyone who has moved across country knows, there is both joy and grief in the process.

Keith stated he strongly holds to the biblical framework when he considers the Deacon role. It is all about caring and mission to make space for wholeness and inclusiveness for those around us. He envisions Deacons meeting the larger community, i.e. making friends with the Salvation Army groups, YMCA, etc.. where folks who need a hand-up might be.

Keith asked the Deacons to assist him and Rev. Helen De Leon in meeting the congregation in small groups of 8 – 10 people. He proposes meeting in a home or in a quiet restaurant for a somewhat structured but informal gathering to discuss how we can live-out the church's vision statement, review financial issues, and get to know each other. He wants this started immediately if possible. We are encouraged to contact our zone members and ask them if they would participate and try to set up a few dates.

3. Meeting Minutes: Following a motion by Kitty Marquardt and seconded by Liz Clifford, the April 2015 Deacon meeting minutes were approved.

4 & 5. No pastor or session report this time. Deacons were encouraged to keep our representative Elder, Jim Young, in prayer as he continues to struggle with health issues.

6. Old business: *DEACON SUMMER PARTY*: Marsha Millsap, Liz Loynes and Cathy Black will meet to set up a deacon party for August. *ST JOHN BASKETS*: Deacons were encouraged to help put St. John care basket kits together immediately following the meeting. *IMMEDIATE CARE*: no report this time. *TRANSPORTATION*: Mike Russell will meet with Jeanette Schwarz and Will Powers to provide an overview of the transportation committee service used by several members who are unable to drive themselves to weekly services. *BLOOD DRIVE*: The next blood drive will be held September 26, 2015. Cathy Black, Olive Thunyani, Shari McIntosh, and Kitty Marquardt will coordinate this activity for the congregation.

7. New Business: Keith asked the Deacons to help with a summer 'meet and greet'. Liz Clifford will coordinate on behalf of the Deacons.

The meeting was closed at 8:15 p.m. with a prayer led by Rev. Keith and based on Psalm 138 – thanksgiving and struggle.

Secretary for 2015 Board of Deacons

Kim Harano

The next meeting will be held on AUGUST 6, 2015.

Devotional: Kim Kinzler. Refreshments: Will Powers & Marsha Millsap