

DEACON MEETING MINUTES

September 10, 2008

Larry Hayward, Eileen Jinks, and 22 deacons met in the Haverkamp Room at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, September 10, 2008. New deacons Bob Campbell and Donna Blackburn were introduced.

DEVOTION: Martha Girard read a passage concerning anger called “Hand Delivered Bouquets.”

PASTORAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER: Larry Hayward described the evolving pastoral care ministry at Westminster, affected recently by the partial retirement of Sandy Calhoun and the death of Reverend Karen Blomberg. The church is working on a plan to clarify who does what in terms of pastoral care. Larry said the clergy will fill the “priestly role”- including hospital visitation, caring for the needs of seriously ill members and pastoral counseling. Each week one pastor will be designated as the minister on call for these needs; the appropriate phone number will be given on the church voice mail after office hours. The “visiting and advising role” will be filled by a new church employee, Eileen Jinx, who will be working 10 hours a week visiting homebound members. She will be aided by volunteer Jill Ewell. The “member to member” care roll will be filled by the deacons and other interested members of the church. Larry encouraged all deacons who are willing and comfortable doing so to develop one-on-one relationships with homebound members. All pastoral care needs, as well as reports concerning home visitations, should be relayed to church secretary, Tara Cain.

Eileen Jinx circulated a sign up sheet asking the deacons to indicate what homebound visitation they are currently providing or would like to provide. She will work on paring the deacons with the homebound members.

OTHER MATTERS: Nancy Pitcher suggested that the deacons contribute the sanctuary flowers on January 4, 2009 in memory of Karen Blomberg. Everyone agreed. Ron Shoemaker reported that the Abaiweh family currently needs transportation to Sunday school (9:30 pickup) and church (10:30 pickup). He asked for volunteers to sit with Mary Jane Gillespie at the 11:00 service; Marbeth Paulsen and Nancy Pitcher volunteered. Sam Ulm, Martha Girard and Fred Woods agreed to lead closing prayers for the October 8, November 12, and December 10 deacon meetings, respectively.

The deacons divided into teams to discuss future staffing needs. The meeting was adjourned with a prayer. The next deacon meeting will be Wednesday, October 8 at 7:00 in the Haverkamp Room.