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## Deacon Minutes

August 20, 2019

**Deacons Present:** Todd Hopkins; Chad Kaemingk; Nate Kruse; Darin Svennes; Cory Wellnitz; Bret Wynja

**Deacons Absent:**

**Others Present:** Mary Morgan, Executive Pastor

### Mercy, Service, and Outreach

- Leaders in ministries of service
- Serve those in distress and need
- Minister to the sick, poor, hurt, and helpless
- Aid the victims of the world's abuse
- Express the social concerns of the church
- Show compassion and manifest the love and care of Christ

#### Acts of Mercy / Service

#### Benevolence Request

#### Pastor Discretion Fund

\$100 through The Community Outreach to help Stephanie Smith with gas and electric bill. Noted.

**Maddy Schneider YWAM** – will speak to deacons about her missions work.

Sept – Dec. is training. Monday through Friday – will be discipleship classes, as well as focused training/learning tracks. There's also work time for a couple hours a day and nightly chapel worship. Saturdays and Sundays they are off can attend churches wherever they want. January-April they go to their outreach location. Maddy will be on a team of 10-20. Then the teams come back to share and de-brief what God did during that time. She is hoping that along with being able to learn, grow, and do Christian outreach, she will also understand more about God's calling for her future. Prayer requests for the congregation: homesickness and protection for her health.

**Words of Hope** funding request. "Below I have attached links to a couple of recent videos from our Persian ministry team. I hope you find these to be powerful testimonies that point to the need for more ministry in difficult parts of the world.

Not able to support at this time.

Fatimeh <https://vimeo.com/299701641/833bc1b07b>

Ramin <https://vimeo.com/333360942/837e35c74e>

The links are private for security reasons, so please don't post anywhere, but feel free to show these to others who you think would be blessed."

**LifeLight** funding request. See information in pre-meeting information.

Not able to support at this time.

**Inspiration Hills** funding request. See information in pre-meeting information.

Not able to support at this time.

**JJ TenClay** ([jjtenclay@rca.org](mailto:jjtenclay@rca.org)) talked to the deacons about the misunderstanding regarding her current role with the RCA as a missionary with immigrants at our May meeting. No decision made about reconsidering our decision to discontinue our support. RECAP: See May Deacon Minutes.

Not able to support at this time.

**David Glader with the Union Gospel Mission** (605-941-8510); [daveglader@msn.com](mailto:daveglader@msn.com)) talked with deacons about Good News Church partnering with them to serve with this transformational and catalytic mission at our May meeting. No decision was made. RECAP: See May Deacon minutes.

Not able to support at this time.

**Missions Policy – potential guidelines for future focus and decision-making**

Refresh your memory on the document from the March meeting. "What are some criteria that a mission committee might use in deciding which missionaries and projects to support?"

Mary Morgan will do some refining work on the draft policy done by Bret Wynja and send it out to the deacons by the Sept. 10 meeting if not before. When it is done, we will ask Tracy Folkerts with Safe Families for Children to complete the application and give us feedback.

As we've worked these past months, what has God been telling us about the vision we're to move toward with our missions? What long and short term goals will help get us there? With all that we've researched and heard from those requesting our support, what guidelines do we want to set that will help lead us toward that vision?

See attached "starting point" document drafted by Bret Wynja. See also last month's summaries on this subject.

**A-D Todd Hopkins Prayer Request Actions**

Jay and Linda Beek and family are fostering two boys. NOTE: Haven't attended worship since April 2018. Leave on this list?

No contact.

Tonya Brockmueller's mom, Shirley Van Peurse, is receiving maintenance treatment for breast cancer.

No contact.

Aimee Brodkorb's mother, Ruth Waldner, suffered a stroke. Although her mom continues to struggle with high blood pressure, some confusion & balance, thankfully, her stroke was minor & drs feel there should be no residual side effects. She's to remain in the hospital until her BP and confusion improve.

No contact.

Sally Brondsema's recent MRIs and PET scan showed no active cancer. She continues with periodic chemo infusions.

No contact.

Chris and Alisha DeHaan are fostering four children.

No contact.

Eric and Esther Carlson as Eric's dad, Larry, of Hills, MN, passed away on 7/29/19.

No contact.

Prayers are requested for Debbie Carter and her parents, who live in a remote area in California. Her dad cares for her mom who is immobile, has lymphoma and various health concerns. Her dad, who is recovering from knee surgery, developed a blood clot and is in the hospital for an extended time. Debbie is trying to establish care for her mom in the meantime, which is difficult being so far away from them. No contact.

#### **E-H Chad Kaemingk Prayer Request Actions**

Susan Endres has ongoing debilitating back pain. Sent email.

Renaë Gingrich's dad is receiving treatment for multiple myeloma. Sent email.

Good News Children Center and staff. Sent email.

Danica & Matt Hanson asked for prayers for parents and boys traveling to the USA Boys Slowpitch Nationals the weekend of 8/03/19. No contact.

Carissa Hanisch is being treated for a chronic illness. Sent email.

Karla Hanisch was hospitalized with a chronic illness and is now home and feeling better. Sent email.

UPDATE: Kathy's son, Michael, passed away this past weekend from the infection related to his Hodgkin's lymphoma. He was only 38 years old. Continued prayers for Kathy are appreciated, as she navigates life without her only child. Sent email.

ORIGINAL REQUEST: Danica Hanson is requesting prayers for her coworker, Kathy, and her adult son, Michael, who was diagnosed with Hodgkins lymphoma a few months ago and has not been doing well. He has had multiple blood transfusions in the last few weeks and is currently in the hospital fighting an infection in his port.

Alison & Curtis Henery are happy to announce the birth of their baby boy on July 22, 2019 @ 2:43pm. Jonah Wyatt Roger Henery , 8lbs 6oz 20.5inches long. Sent email.

#### **I-L Darin Svenes Prayer Request Actions**

Gene Knock is in Palisade Manor and receiving hospice care.

Lynette Koedam's mom was placed into hospice care the week of 8/05/19.

Michelle Krier's cousin, Rhonda Imbery, continues to receive chemotherapy for cancer.

Marilyn Larson is starting in-home hospice care. Recent PET scan showed no new cancer in any organs, but her primary area of cancer is progressing and there are no more options to treat it. Her doctors estimate she has approximately 6 months.

Frances Lee is in the nursing home.

Prayers are requested for Theresa Lucas and her family, as her uncle died suddenly after a blood clot following surgery. (7/8/19)

### M-P Bret Wynja Prayer Request Actions

Laura Minor is being treated for thyroid cancer.	No contact.
Gertrude Overweg is a shut-in.	No contact.
Scott Oden's mom is being treated for breast cancer.	No contact.
Ron and Linda Ortman's son-in-law, Richard, is undergoing treatment for aggressive cancer but continues to be weak and tired. Recent tests are inconclusive.	No contact.
Five-year-old Jake Dieters, family friend of Ron and Linda Ortman, now has been found to have cancer on his remaining kidney. Please pray for complete healing for Jake and comfort for his parents.	No contact.
Pvt Mady Obang Oweet (son of Scott & June Odens) will be serving in Germany.	No contact.

### R-T Nate Kruse Prayer Request Actions

Connie Smith requests prayer for Rory's (Connie's stepson) granddaughter, Alexis, who is hospitalized with an infection around her heart and lungs. She is undergoing treatment with a medication that may or may not work, and if not, she will need heart surgery. Sadly, the infection is caused by meth addiction. Please pray for healing of this infection and from her meth addiction. Doctors tell her that if this infection hits her again, it will kill her.	No contact.
Lance Roseland continues with treatment for APL, a type of leukemia.	No contact.
Rosa Schepel has metastatic liver cancer.	Called her this week.
Brett Smith's stepdad, Chris, has metastatic cancer but is receiving immunotherapy treatment and periodic infusions and doing well with that.	No contact.
Deb Thalhuber went on a medical mission trip to Guatemala, South America from 8/2-8/10/19.	No contact.

### U-Z Cory Wellnitz Prayer Request Actions

Cora Van Der Ziel is in Dow Rummel.

## Stewardship

- Gather and distribute the offerings of the congregation
- Give personal attention to the distressed
- Responsible for all congregational concerns such as providing for the support of the Minister of the Word and Sacrament
- Exercising careful stewardship of all funds, goods, and properties

### Stewardship of Finances

#### Financials – Todd Hopkins

Email w/giving statements to congregation to include giving statistics. Need to put our giving status back in the bulletin each week between now and the end of the year. Potentially need to talk about it in front of the congregation.

Deacons asked Mary to do some research on the reasons for the decreases in giving.

When we pay for the carpet, we will spend down account #0724-Building Repairs Fund.

We will hold off on further transfers to the hands and feet missions fund until we see how the year ends.

Deacons asked staff to hold purchases on what doesn't impact ministry. Any budget overages must be pre-approved by deacons.

### **Stewardship of Facilities and Property**

**Maintenance Report** – Included with pre-meeting information.  
Aug. 25 Work Day

Deacons talked about the August 25 work day.

### **Stewardship Education**

What will the deacons do to educate people on giving in 2019?

Educating people on the purpose of this year's building fund.

3 Min. Video of missionaries we support. Waiting for missions policy.

Need a letter for a statement that will be sent mid-July or early August.

**Other**