

DIACONATE MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 6, 2008  
Church Library-6:00 PM

Present-Warren Bouton, Beth Shehadi, Sandy Braillier, John Burbank, Judy Genre, Robert Holbrook, Eva Littlefield, Bette MacDonald, Robbie Neylon, Kay Vercoe, Diane Wells, Pat Williams.

Absent- Joanne Whitticom, Gail Brewer, Elsie Burbank (ill)

No Opening due to the Ash Wednesday Service we will attend at 7:00pm.

Kay Vercoe was welcomed as our new Deacon and was promised a more reflective time at our next meeting.

.The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Diaconate's Lenten Activities, so there were no other reports given. Warren stayed through the discussion on Maundy Thursday, and then left to prepare for the Ash Wednesday service.

The Secretary's Report was approved, as was the Treasurer's report given by Bob Holbrook. The ending balance is \$3, 572.18.

Beth went around the table to get a consensus as to what to do for Maundy Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. It was decided after much discussion to go with the new format which would be a family supper –lamb and other dishes brought, and then the Communion and program will follow around the tables. The program was found on the UCC National Website. The Council and/or the Parish Activities Committee will be asked to help with the food. A committee of Sandy, Beth, Diane, Pat , Robbie and Betty will meet soon to work out the details. Change is difficult, but we have been doing a 2 year rotation of Maundy Thursday Services in the Sanctuary and Seder suppers, so this could be thought of as a new type in the rotation.

The Lenten Series was discussed and the topic "Living Beyond One's own Area's of Concern" was mentioned and approved. Feb. 17 will be "Nurturing the Earth" led by Sandy and Pat. Feb. 24 will hopefully be a discussion of "Green" by Malek Sufi (wrong spelling but he spoke at the Men's Breakfast and Bob said he was very interesting.) March 2<sup>nd</sup> will be the book discussion of "Three Cups of Tea" led by Warren. All the church and the city of Laconia are urged to read the book. March 9<sup>th</sup> will be a discussion on Local Mission , hopefully led by Emily and Alida.

The prayer flag will be added to with a Peace Theme.. The prayer vigil which goes from Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 3pm to Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00am will be offered to the congregation as part of the Lenten theme and the sign up sheets will go up this week and Judy Genre will help with the set up and getting devotional books since Beth will be in class that weekend.

Since Elsie was sick, the sign ups for Serving Communion and Standing with the Pastor were not passed out. Kay Vercoe offered to serve at the 8am service on March 2<sup>nd</sup> if someone who has done it before will help her. Diane Wells, Robbie Neylon and Bob Holbrook will serve at the 9:30 service.

The addressing of the Birthday Cards has been done by Pat Normandin for over 5 years. She has asked to be relieved. Judy Genre said she would do the addressing and then all of the Deacons can sign them before the Deacon's meeting on the month

previous to the birthdays. Diane is looking into the purchase of Easter cards to send to our 80 and over church members.

The next meeting is March 19<sup>th</sup>. Diane Wells will do the opening and Bette Mac Donald will do the closing. We were adjourned at 6:50 to go to the service.

Diane Wells, sec. pro tem.