



2017-18 Board of Deacons Second Hour Forum

FPC Metuchen
March 18, 2018

The 2017-18 Board of Deacons

► Carey Kotake & Gail Stein

Co-Moderators

► Howard Stein

Treasurer

► Kristina Scoglio

Time Keeper

► Rev. Justin Karmann

Pastoral Advisor

► Alex Yakowenko

► John Keithler

► Lindy Rutter

► Ann Behrens

► Jonathan Fernandez

► Lisa Lussier

► Beverly Mahon

► June Young

► Matthew Pajow

► Domonique Dudley

► Justin Gazeko

► Sally Ayotte

► Holly DiStefano

► Karen Keithler

► Steven Hoffsommer

► Janet Aspinwall

► Kristina Scoglio

► Tom Yakowenko



The Board of Deacons Mission

- ▶ We are a ministry of caring, a ministry of love, a ministry of compassion, and a ministry of prayer
- ▶ Deacons intentionally share the love of Jesus Christ to the church and the community – spiritually, mentally and physically
- ▶ We bring the personal love of Christ to those suffering loss, hospitalization, loneliness and hunger; and, we offer tangible support to those in challenging situations



The Board of Deacons Commitments

- Bringing fellowship and comfort to those in need of companionship
 - Home visits, Cards and Caring, Flower delivery, Hospital and Assisted Living visits
- Welcoming and serving the community at large
 - Community Dinners and Community Garden
- Advocating, giving, nurturing
 - Food pantry, Advent Angels, Immigrant and Refugee aid, Child Sponsorship, Helping Hands
- Living a spiritual life
 - Faithful attendance at Worship
 - Serving the Sacrament of Communion
 - Participation in church programs and activities

How we fulfill our commitments

➤ Ongoing activities

- Flower Delivery
- Community Dinners
- Cards and Caring
- Ushering
- Coffee Hours
- Serving Communion

➤ Funding

- Community Dinners
- Immigrant and Refugee Support
- Emergency Aid
- World Vision Child Sponsorship (*Efrain Adalberto Godíñez, El Salvador*)

➤ Ministries

- Food Pantry
- Special Events
- Helping Hands
- Community Garden
- Healthy Homebound
- Whispering Knoll



The “Food Pantry” Ministry

- ▶ Provide support to Food Pantry in any way needed
- ▶ Howard Stein
- ▶ Ann Behrens
- ▶ Gail Stein
- ▶ *Rescuing produce and other food from Farmers Markets (June – Nov)*
- ▶ *Packing baskets at Thanksgiving Christmas and Easter*
- ▶ *Preparing sandwiches for Shelters*
- ▶ *Now working directly with Clients as they select their own goods*
- ▶ *Liaising with Sarah Teti to develop additional ways to enhance Food Pantry*
- ▶ *Organizing food drives/donations with local organizations*

The “Whispering Knoll” Ministry

- Whispering Knoll is an assisted living facility Majority of residents may have some physical limitations but are eager to attend and participate when Deacons Visit
- Typically an average of 10 residents in attendance
 - Karen Keithler
 - John Keithler
 - Holly DiStefano
 - Lisa Lussier
 - *Monthly visits to Whispering Knoll to engage residents*
 - *Historically we engage in trivia games with residents*
 - *Recently the Ministry has been focusing on conversations with residents (where they have lived, high school and college memories, military service, families, etc.)*
 - *Residents enjoy sharing their life experiences with the Deacons*



The “Community Garden” Ministry

- Community Garden is located on the back end of the ball field behind the Social Center.
- **There are 16 plots that are “rented” to interested members of the community**
 - Tom Yakowenko
 - Alex Yakowenko
 - Lindy Rutter
 - Matthew Pajow
 - *Justin Gazeko*
 - *All 16 plots have been filled*
 - *Work will begin shortly on fences surrounding the plots*
 - *The planned date to have a ribbon ceremony is April 22nd (Earth Day)*
 - *Blessing ceremony in mid May with Pastor Clémot*



The “Healthy Homebound” Ministry

- Caring visits and sending cards
 - Janet Aspinwall
 - Sally Ayotte
 - *Person-to-person ministry*
 - *Share the love of Jesus Christ - compassionate attitude and prayer*
 - *Visit members who cannot get to worship on a regular basis*
 - *Visit members in hospitals, re-hab facilities, or nursing homes*
 - *Send cards of caring – just to let people know we are thinking of them*
 - *Try to anticipate needs*

The “Special Events” Ministry

- The Deacon point of contact for all Events that go on within FPC

- June Young
- Kristina Scoglio
- Carey Kotake

This year, we’ve assisted with and/or organized a number of events including:

- *Advent Angels at Christmas* delivering over 250 gifts to Children's Shelter and Assisted Living facilities
- ***Assisted with Fall and Spring PW’s Rummage Sales***
- *Helped organize CLC Christmas luncheon and **Today’s 2nd Hour***
- *Assisted with 30-Hour Famine weekend*
- *Working on Cabaret night – Deacons spring concert/fundraiser on May 12th*

...details in April Parish News



The “Helping Hands” Ministry

- A group of Deacons who can be contacted to help out elderly or infirm members of FPC with light household tasks and rides to Church

- ▶ Beverly Mahon
- ▶ Domonique Dudley
- ▶ Jonathan Fernandez
- ▶ Steven Hoffsommer

- ▶ *True kindness lies within the act of giving without the expectations of something in return*
- ▶ *Our mission is to contribute to the fulfillment of a need within our community*
- ▶ *To support to those who are in need with a helping hand*
- ▶ *Providing transportation to Church; take grocery shopping; assist with light chores in and around the house*
- ▶ *If someone is in need, we're here to lend them a **“helping hand”***