

Deacons Commission Report
January 2022

The deacons' ongoing commitment this past year during the pandemic has included leading sharing time on Sunday mornings, ensuring two deacons are scheduled every Sunday when there are online and in-person services, or one when there is an online service only. Deacons regularly hosted online fellowship times before and after services on Zoom and greeted those attending in-person services. Deacons also participated in in-person services with serving communion and assisting with a baptism.

The deacons worked with our transitional pastor to minister to and care for the congregation and respond to individual needs. We provided support to people through service, visits, phone calls and emails. In our meetings we attempt to think intentionally regarding a variety of aspects of our spiritual life, such as: worship and fellowship practices and participation, keeping in touch with people we haven't seen in a while, the membership roll, and inter-generational efforts.

The deacons administer the Deacons Fund and this past year responded to occasional requests from the community for gas and food, which were distributed in person and usually in the form of gift cards.

Several small groups formed in summer of 2020 and one continued to meet this past year. We appreciate the initiative of those in our church who have formed other groups, including Home Alone Together. Small groups are important to the spiritual growth and connections within our congregation.

Deacons are represented on the Retreat Committee and participated with planning and hosting of our inter-generational fall retreat at Baker Park Preserve. Deacons also participated in the regularly scheduled meetings and business of Church Council, Pastor/Parish Relations Committee and Gifts Discernment Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Wiebe