



Deacons' Meeting Minutes

Held on May 13th, 2025 at 6:30 pm

Call to Order (Wayne A.):

- 18 Deacons present

Prayer Requests/Praises (Deacons): Lift up these members with special needs in our prayers:

Charlie Green;

Liz and Gary Alston;

Maureen Mares;

Sam Inglis;

Susan Hathcoat;

Tollef Hanson

Opening Prayer (Ken D.)

- **Bob Stroupe** volunteered for the June 2025 meeting

Five Minute Devotional (Ken D.)

- **John Altermann** volunteered for the June 2025 meeting

Old Business:

1. Reviewed April 2025 meeting minutes

New Business:

1. Church Calendar (**Wayne A.**): distribution of latest version
 - a. Deacon focus on the upcoming annual VBS in July; opportunities for service!
 - b. JJ: planning for an August 6th Church Family Night at Montgomery Putt Putt
2. **Bob Stroupe and John Altermann** volunteered to perform the opening prayer and devotional respectively for the June 2025 Deacons meeting
3. **Deacon website demo and questions (Howard R.)**
 - a. The website allows Deacons to move from receiving a document at a time by email from Google DOCS to seeing all Deacon

materials all the time on the website; Deacon self service fully enabled!

- b. Pastor Matt built the “big beautiful Deacon website” using the SubSplash technology stack; SubSplash is what powers the church website and church electronic giving; copy and paste this link into your browser:
<https://subsplash.com/u/thecurrent/media/d/58sm6x4-the-story-of-subsplash> if you want to know more about church specialist SubSplash company
- c. Simplicity of usage is the focus of the Deacon website

4. New building update (Terry G.):

- a. Building permit expected around end of May
- b. Estimated construction start June 2nd
- c. Loan/mortgage for remainder of capital secured by Patt McQuistion
- d. New entry and maybe additional parking estimated at \$250K to \$300K
- e. Expected completion is around mid-December 2025 barring unforeseen events (weather, other, etc.)

5. Benevolence Report (John A.)

- i. Opening Balance: \$16,730
- ii. Contributions: + 1,165
- iii. Distributions: - 2,215
- iv. Closing Balance: **\$15,680**

- b. Disbursements were made for rent, utilities assistance

6. Welcome Wagon - Maintenance (Wayne A.)

- a. Batteries were dry; were filled with distilled water
- b. David Ray alerted to golf cart maintenance needs
- c. Charging of golf cart on Saturday inside church lobby; cannot charge cart in the storage shed

7. Communion adjustments (Steven L.):

- a. May 2025 Communion prep reminder: **Carter/Stroupe, Carter Stroupe (9:30 service), Register/Runser (11:00 service)**
- b. Suggestion to drop from four trays per side to three trays a side was discussed and will be adopted as a trial. Avoids a single Deacon winding up with four trays
- c. **Frank Jacobs and Chris Chandler** will work together to upgrade the Communion Service Schedule for additional clarity and simplification. Also need to add the Worthington Manor monthly duty to the master schedule

- d. Steve Ladd shared the request from Karen Powell for communion distribution once per month at the Worthington Manor Assisted Living Center. Steve suggested a single Deacon distribute communion once a month (2nd Sunday) at the Manor's 10:30 Sunday Service. **Steve** will perform the initial distribution on May 18th, 2025

8. **Sub-flock discussion (Wayne A.):**
 - a. Are all of the subflock members assigned to Deacons documented in the Ezekiel database? Unclear
 - b. Terry shared that he targets an average of 18 subflock members for each Deacon
9. **"Deacon Dialogue" (Wayne A.):**
 - a. The growth of membership will drive the need for four additional Deacons this year. Time to start the early nomination process. Submit worthy candidates to Sandy M. and Wayne A.
 - b. How is the North Shore Church Connections multimedia product progressing? When will it be available as a conversation tool for new members?
10. **Pastor's Comments (JJ):**
 - a. Mark book of the Bible series beginning this summer. Weekly chapter readings in advance and a couple of pastor discussions via social media each week to prepare membership for Sunday services.
 - b. Ryan is planning a "Questions Now" study for Wednesday evenings.
 - c. Membership growth continues at a steady pace in 2025. Will continue to pressure existing facilities. Will require creative scheduling to accommodate all who want to attend
 - d. There is pastoral focus simultaneously on each age group of members. All age groups are receiving specific planning and programs appropriate to their individual needs
11. **Closing Prayer: (Pastor JJ)**

Next Meeting: June 10th at 6:30 pm – "Second Tuesday"
Text Sandy at (281) 615-7978 to include agenda items