

**Hiddenwood Presbyterian Church  
Minutes of Stated Diaconate Meeting  
February 17, 2021**

I. Opening

The Stated Meeting of the Diaconate of Hiddenwood Presbyterian Church was held on February 17, 2021 via Zoom. Reverend Charles Tucker called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Melanie White opened with a devotion. Motion to approve the minutes from the January meeting by Reverend Charles Tucker and seconded by Diaconate agreement. Motion passed.

In attendance:

Bill Sharkey	Robert Parry	Bill Espich	Ben Norfleet
Paige Crowther	Chris Manry	Libby Bowman	Carey Gerstner
Melanie White	Jodie Bayne	Reverend Charles Tucker	

Not Present:

Dan Tomblin (Ex)	Hilary Spencer (Ex)
Gay Huffman (Ex)	Debbie Carrithers (Ex)

II. New Business:

Election of Diaconate Chair and Diaconate Secretary. The Diaconate voted Libby Bowman as Diaconate Chair and Melanie White to continue as Secretary. The Diaconate also voted Robert Parry to continue to serve on the Nominating Committee for new officers.

Committee Assignments were discussed. Chris Manry will contact Hilary Spencer about possibly joining the Property committee.

III. Committee Reports

A. Mission – Bill Espich

The Mission Committee has not met in person since March due to pandemic.

1. Letters of appreciation have been received for our 2020 contributions from: THRIVE, Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Service, Peninsula Rescue Mission, Youth Challenge and Virginia Peninsula Food Bank.
2. The Market for Mission, Rise Against Hunger, and the Fall Festival are all in the early stages of planning in hopes of a return to safe face to face interactions.
3. In order to maintain the 2020 level of support to local organizations, we will need to depend even more this year on the Market for Mission account.
4. Continue expanding support for teachers at Hiddenwood Elementary School
5. Continue working on connections with the Central African Community
6. The Mission Committee gives thanks for the generosity demonstrated by the congregation in 2020.

- B. Food and Fellowship-Gay Huffman/Paige Crowther  
The FF/CC committee has not met in person since March due to pandemic.
1. Food and Fellowship
    - a. We supported PORT 3 times this month. (Jan 15<sup>th</sup>, Jan 27<sup>th</sup> (emergency fill in) and Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>). We served between 35 to 38 guests for each event. The January 27<sup>th</sup> date was unscheduled. Another group was unable to fulfill their obligation at the last minute and Belinda was able to get enough church volunteers to provide dinner that evening.
    - b. Sandwich Wednesdays for the Salvation Army continues. (1/20 & 2/10) Due to many PORT events, we were only able to donate sandwiches two times since last Diaconate meeting.
  2. Congregational Care
    - a. There have been no services for which our committee was needed at the church this past month.
    - b. Cards and calls continue to go out to our Homebound community.
- C. Property - Chris Manry  
The Property Committee did not meet this month.
1. Belinda's Report
    - a. Belinda reported that Masters Mechanical had completed the replacement of the compressor in the Sanctuary. Although the part was under warranty, we had to pay for the installation.
    - b. At our annual inspection, the Fire Inspector noticed that some of the emergency lights were not working. Masters Mechanical had to return to trace the problem in the wiring and fixed the problem.
    - c. No new problems were found with the roof this month.
    - d. The landscape contractor removed all the fallen leaves from the church grounds. Many thanks to Jodie Bayne for her help in that endeavor.
  2. Ken Koehler's Report:
    - a. Ken and Neil replaced some of the ceiling tiles that had been damaged by the leaks in the roof and the pipe behind the Sanctuary. This was another requirement of the Fire Inspector.
  3. Committee Members Report:
    - a. Paige and Bob spent time during the past months picking up debris on the grounds and trimming shrubs. Robert has been cutting the grass as needed and mulching up leaves.
  4. Action Items:
    - a. We hope to return to having meetings next month so we can get ready for - hopefully - returning to in person worship services.
  5. Items for Session: None
- D. Evangelism & Communications – Melanie White and Ben Norfleet  
The Evangelism/Communications Committee has not met in person since March due to the pandemic.
1. We continue to work with Barbara Adams on obtaining approval for an LED sign at the corner of Hiden Boulevard. Recently, N.N. Planning Commission

approved our proposal; thus, we are now able to go before NN City Council for final approval. The next NN City Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday February 23, 2021. Barbara Adams has taken the lead in our efforts to obtain an LED sign and will keep the committee updated on the progress.

2. Barbara Adams continues to put out the *Hidenwood Herald* as well as the *News You Can Use* to help keep members updated on events and happenings within the church.
3. Recently, ashes were sent out for Ash Wednesday along with a devotional, a Lenten schedule, and recipes for pancakes for Shrove Tuesday and a King Cake.

IV. Old Business:  
None

IV. Pastor Report – Reverend Charles Tucker

- A. Continue to work on improving virtual services- biggest hurdle has been getting audio and visual in sync.
- B. Finance Committee has expressed there is a significant shortfall in the number of pledges to Hidenwood Presbyterian for the year 2021.

V. Rejoicing & Weeping

- A. Kudos to Don Kane for leading the recognition of Joan Sweet’s 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Everyone involved had a great experience.
- B. Prayers for the family of Nell O’Conner who passed away at the end of January. The family will have a private service.
- C. Continued prayers for an employee of Makemie Woods who is fighting cancer and is beginning to feel better.
- D. Continued prayers for Bill Espich’s granddaughter. She has progressed well through more than half of her cancer treatments and should hopefully finish her treatment in June.

VI. Adjournment

There being no further business, Jodie Bayne closed the meeting with prayer and motioned to adjourn seconded by Reverend Charles Tucker. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melanie White, Secretary