

# DEACON'S REPORT 2013-2014

I have lost track now of how many years I have served in leadership at WBC. It must be over twenty years - first as a deacon, then as an elder, now again as a deacon. Looking back, there have been many challenges, heartaches, fun times, and blessings. All of it has been good for me including this year, but as I will explain, I hope we don't have a repeat of this last year.

This last year Josh Foster and Tyler Dunphy (until he became an elder) served with me. These are fine, godly men whom I love and respect. The problem was that their desires, gifts, and their roles (by design) were to minister to our children, and mine were to oversee the repairs and upkeep of the building and grounds. Because our roles were so different, we rarely contacted each other. We didn't elect a chairman (there was no need). We didn't even get together to pray. I am confident that these men served faithfully because I know their hearts, but don't ask me what they did; I don't know much about it.

Even though I was the only deacon responsible for the maintenance of the building and grounds, there were many individuals and families who pitched in. Off the top of my head, I can think of:

Peter Norris - flowers and shrubs

Joe & Sarah Williams - raking leaves

Joel & Cassy Lloyd - various jobs

Ivan Chute - parking lot maintenance

Bill Symonds - reset flood light pole, supply and installed drywell

Norm Scott - dug hole for septic tank pumping

Cindy Irish - purchasing kitchen & cleaning supplies and scheduling lawn mowing

Josh & Heidi Otte & others - painting sanctuary

Peter Valcourt - furnace repair

There were lots more of you who cleaned, picked up, and just pitched-in without being asked. Thank you! Your unsung acts of service may not be seen by others, but they are essential to the health and ministry of WBC.

Even with all of this help, there were still many jobs that I had sole responsibility over. I'm not saying this to pat myself on the back or to complain about it. I love this kind of ministry, and God has blessed me with more free time than most men have. My reason for not wanting a repeat of last year is because I don't want to do this alone. Ministries (almost all ministries) are designed by our Heavenly Father to be done in community. The deacon's ministry is no exception. We need men with the same goals in mind - to serve spiritual needs at WBC through physical acts of service. But we also need men with different backgrounds and points of view so that there is a balance in the workload and so that balanced and wise decisions are made. It is too easy for individuals, left to themselves, to make nearsighted, unwise, and even selfish decisions. I need men who can see what I can not. Please join with me in praying that God will raise up such men.

For the purpose of education, the following is a list of some of the responsibilities of the deacons last year. Oversight of:

1) Building Care:

- windows and doors
- furnace repairs
- lighting repairs
- upkeep and replacement of vacuums

2) Grounds Care:

- raking needs
- lawn mowing / scheduling
- upkeep and replacement of mowers
- fertilizing lawn
- snow plowing
- shoveling and sanding walks
- upkeep of driveway
- repair of flood light pole
- installation of drywell

3) Finding a new home for the portable. (The portable is now at More to Life Christian Campground in Winthrop and will be used as a bunkhouse for youth retreats.)

- prepare portable for removal
- clean up after removal of portable

4) Deacon's Fund: The deacon's fund distributed \$2,900 to needy families this past fiscal year.

Your brother in Christ,

Tim Irish