

Lay Deacons Report - 2013

Al Brown (chairperson), Joan Harrigan, Keith Cunningham, Betty FitzGerald and Mary Thomas are the five remaining Lay Deacons. They continue to do as much as they are able to do under the present limited circumstances. From an original class of about 10, our numbers have decreased significantly and the passing years have created their limitations.

The original mission of the deacons was to be a caring brother or sister and a spiritual resource to members of our congregation and assistants to the pastor especially in the ministry of visitation with those in need of a listening ear, words of comfort, consolation and prayer. While not as active as in the beginning, the Lay Deacons continue to pursue aspects of the following:

- Visitation of the sick and delivery of flowers to shut-ins
- Sending cards to people listed on the prayer list
- Serving communion in church and to shut-ins
- Participation in the FISH hospitality ministry
- Praying with and anointing those in need after Worship
- Assisting Membership Committee with member follow-up
- Transporting members to hospital and doctors' office
- Assisting the pastor as requested

Joan Harrigan continues to coordinate our "Bread of Life" ministry, providing loaves of fresh-baked bread to our visitors as they join us in worship. The response to the ministry remains very positive.

Our mission is to try to be the hands and feet of Jesus in this place in our time. Our ministry is to care for God's people, to meet them in their needs, to communicate the love of God and of the church family and to assist the pastor in keeping in touch with the congregation.

Respectfully submitted,
Keith A. Cunningham