

First Baptist Church of Annapolis
Reverend Louis J. Boston, Pastor
2020 Annual Report
December 26, 2020

Name of Organization: Ministry of Deacons

Purpose: The duty of the Deacons are to seek out members of the Church in need of financial assistance and to use the alms of the Church for their relief; to visit the sick; to administer the elements of the Lord's Supper; to undertake the general supervision of the temporal interests of the Church; and to cooperate with and assist the Pastor in the performance of his duties.

2020 Officers and Members: Chairman - Robert Hector, III; Vice Chairman - Wallace Williams; Secretary-Lawrence Burris; Fred Foreman, Samuel Hawkins, Rudolph Ross and Charles Gross, Sr. The Deacon Ministry mourned the death of longtime Deacon Tollie Vann Jr, in 2020.

Finances: Income for the Year: N/A

Completed Projects and Accomplishments for 2020: This year the Deacon Ministry, along with all ministries of FBC, faced many, many challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic which engulf our country. The state of emergency issued by the Maryland state government closed, among other institutions, all churches and houses of worship, effective March 17, 2020. The Deacon Ministry reacted and, using the telephone conference line utilized for Thursday Prayer meeting, quickly developed a format, and implement Sunday Worship Service via teleconference. The first 'tele-service' was held Sunday, March 22, 2020. This "tele-service' format was also used for "The Seven Last Words" service, Easter Sunday service and Pastor's Anniversary Service. On Sunday, May 10, 2020, Sunday Tele-Service was transitioned to Sunday Zoom-Video Service on Mother's Day, by a group of dedicated church members with expertise in this social media platform. This platform allowed members not only to hear one another, but also see one another. Sunday service on Zoom continues to be utilized during 2020 and will continue into 2021. Church special recognition programs were held on this platform in 2020 including Church's Anniversary and Deacon/Deaconess Day. Deacons continued to hold Thursday Prayer meeting via telephone-conference call, as well as Sunday Church School (on Wednesdays). It is pleasing to note that, while many of our members are unable to attend the physical church service at 31 West Washington, they have been present on both teleconference service and the current Zoom video services.

Social distancing under Covid-19 protocols was mandated but Deacons continued to check on the welfare of members on the Sick and Shut-in List, as well as the general congregation using the telephone and sending of cards.

Incomplete Projects from 2020:

Plans for the New Year 2021: As the COVID-19 virus and social distancing protocols appear to be around for a while, the Deacon Ministry will work with the Church Clerk and Membership committee to update the Church Membership list to ensure all church members are being cared for spiritually, physically, and mentally. The Deacon ministry is also actively involved with the Ministry of Trustees and other church ministries in developing guidelines and operating procedures for when the church does reopen for regular service.

Comments/Recommendations:

In Matthew 18:20, Jesus tells his disciples *“For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”* Let us all continue praise the Lord and give him honor by studying his Word, and participating in church ministries (Bible Study, Church School, and Sunday Worship Service)

Chairman Signature: __FF for HEC 3rd_____ Date: _12/27/2020__