

COMMUNITY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF
CLINTON HEIGHTS
2021 Board of Deacons Annual Report
January 2022

Deacons that served this past year of 2021 are as follows:

Bruce Giddings – Chair Deacon/Treasurer

Carl Kirk – Secretary Deacon

Robert Henion III - Deacon

Elaine Wilchek – Deacon

Vacant – Deacon

Vacant - Deacon

Including our Deacon Emeritus: Ethel Center, Irma Landon, and Deanne Bellinger.

This past year has been challenging for many. Covid and the various variants remain to grip and control our sense of normalcy. But as we continue to go forward, we do so together. Together as a community, and a Congregation. Technology continues to keep us connected and informed.

Conducting virtual church services certainly had its struggles. During the totally virtual church worship sessions on Zoom, we seemed to have confidence understanding of our technological capabilities.

Once we opened the church for in-person and virtual church worship we found a new technology challenge with mixing the two together into Hybrid Worship.

Gathering in-person together was a refreshing feel of return to our regular routine. At least for a while. In May we tried the outdoor Fire Side Gathering. And then June we opened the worship hall. With social distancing and certain restrictions, we progressed forward. We then proceeded to lessen the restrictions. Bringing back hymnals, removing boundary tape, and finally having a Christmas Eve service. And yet again, we are back to virtual services. But I'm confident we will return to our place of worship soon and be able to see our friendly smiles and feel the warm welcome touch of saying "Hi, it's good to see you".

In the absence of Sunday School, the Deacons has also reintroduced the children's Bible Study on Saturdays by Zoom. We thank Ms. Tracey Peirce for presenting this virtual Sunday program for our children. The Deacons also celebrated 3 High School graduates from last school year. Matthew, Rachel and Arionna. We also recognized Andrew from the previous year which was dominated by Covid. We value our spiritual investment in our youth in hopes that they will also be disciples of our faith and Christ.

We would also like to remember those we lost. We remember the Celebration of Life for Richard Wark. And we also remember our Memorial service for Samuel Blodgett.

Deacons also wish to report the continued charitable efforts and committed donations we continue with.

The Deacons have continued their funded mission commitments for the following:

1. Unity House
2. Damien Center
3. Capital Area Council of Churches
4. Labor-Religion Coalition of NY
5. Heifer International

Deacons continued with donations such as Turkeys, pies, and other fixings for CoNSERN U Thanksgiving Day Food Pantry, and Hands on Food for Faith. And we continue to Thank all who have donated. This past Christmas effort of dropped-off gift donations continued for CoNSERN U. In addition, thru the assistance of UCC in directing appropriated funds, our church also helps our sponsored young Palestinian girl Halima. We continue to be committed to our annual donation of \$300 (\$25/month) to assist Halima with necessary financial needs.

We as Deacons wish to thank the entire Congregation for its Patience, and continued generosity that allows us to continue the work we do for Church and Community.

God Bless us All, The Deacons