



QUALIFICATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF DEACONS

2023

(APPENDIX B GOVERNANCE MANUAL 6-28-21)

HP Pres' deacons are nominated by the congregation and undergo a robust screening and evaluation process by the Officer Nominating Committee before being elected by a congregational vote. Under the oversight of the Session, "Deacons lead ministries that nurture fellowship and caregiving within and beyond the congregation" (ECO Polity 2.03). Deacons "serve the people, urge concern, and direct the people's help to those in need." (2.0103).

Deacon Qualifications

- **Active Covenant Partner** of HP Pres for three years or more including a demonstrated commitment to worship, community, service and financial support (Acts 2:42)
- **A mature and growing relationship with Jesus** Christ (2 Pet. 1:3-11)
- Worthy of respect for the character traits described in 1 Tim. 3:8-10 including:
 - An "above reproach" lifestyle free from patterns of sin
 - Sincerity and integrity
 - Devotion to spouse (if married) with a healthy family life
- **Commitment to God's Word** and the ECO Essential Tenets (1 Tim. 3:9)
- **A servant's heart** that is eager to help meet the tangible needs of others (Acts 6:3)
- **Proven gifts of "helping"** (1 Cor. 12:28) **and "mercy"** (Rom. 12:8)

Deacon Responsibilities

The Vision Statement of HP Pres deacons is "to build Christian Community in the name of Jesus Christ through ministries of **care, prayer and connection.**"

In order to show Christ's **care** and compassion, each deacon is expected to:

- **Join and be actively involved in a Service Team Ministry** (e.g. Rehab Visitation, New Infants Team, Memorial Service Team, etc.) based on individual calling and gifts

In response to Christ's promises regarding **prayer** each deacon is expected to:

- Intercede regularly for individuals within our congregation
- Notify or confirm with the church's Congregational Care office when special needs become known; and share prayer concerns, as requested and appropriate

In the ministry of **connection** each deacon is expected to:

- Connect members of the congregation to each other and to the resources of the church in times of need



Time Commitment

- Deacons are elected for a four year term of service
- New deacon training
- Time to serve in the ways listed above
- Attend quarterly deacon dinners and the annual day-long deacon retreat
- Regularly administer the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper