

PATHWAY COMMUNITY CHURCH

# DEACONS ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES

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## WHAT IS AN DEACON? *A Biblical Definition*

In the leadership of the church we see the love of Christ for his people. As the Head of the church Jesus raises up leaders and by his Spirit equips them so that believers may grow in faith, develop disciplined Christian living, serve others in selfless love and share with all the good news of salvation. He taught us the spirit of true leadership when he said,

*“Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant and whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave - just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

**Matthew 20:26-28**

The office of the deacon is one of servanthood and service representing Christ through the action of the Holy Spirit. Deacons are set apart for a ministry of mercy, service, and outreach.

There are a number of scriptural references to the work and ministry of a Deacon in the Bible.

**Philippians 1:1 | 1 Timothy 3:8-13 | Acts 6:1-8**

## SPECIFIC DEACON RESPONSIBILITIES

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### Caring Ministry

- a. Assistance to people in need
  - i. Visitation to those in need.
  - ii. To express compassion towards the poor, widowed, orphaned and foreigner through practical expressions of care.
  - iii. To supply and deliver food to those in need.
  
- b. Communion
  - i. Prepare the elements for communion including the purchase of the juice and the baking of the bread.
  - ii. Participate in the distribution of the Communion as needed.

## Financial Oversight

- a. Wise distribution of the funds for benevolence, and the discerning selection of candidates to receive funds.
- b. Uphold the policies related to benevolence.

## Connecting Ministry

- a. Minister to assigned Pathway Community Groups (geographical zones) consisting of 35-50 people
  - i. In an effort to give consistent care we ask that deacons be aware of their attendance and connect with them if they have been absent for a prolonged period.
  - ii. Provide fellowship and service/outreach opportunities to connect and serve several times a year.
  - iii. *Connect with Missions Pastor for service opportunities ideas.*
  - iv. Visit those within the group who are in the hospital.
  - v. Have an open door policy for new people joining the group.
  - vi. Keep record of those who are part of your group.
- b. Connect with visitors interested in Pathway
  - i. Contact those who have filled out or expressed interest in learning more about Pathway
  - ii. Point visitors to whomever they need to talk to regarding their specific questions