

CEDARCREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH

POSITION PAPER

DEACONS

What Is A Deacon?

A Deacon is a person who is appointed to facilitate a specific ministry within the church. The office of Deacon is reserved for church-wide ministry coordination, as opposed to serving as part of a ministry. For example, the Sunday School Superintendent could be a Deacon, whereas a Sunday School teacher would not be a Deacon.

Who May Serve As A Deacon?

A Deacon can be either a man or a woman. The qualifications of a Deacon are twofold: character as defined in 1 Timothy 3:8-12, and the ability and willingness to do the ministry.

The specific character qualities that a Deacon must display are:

Men:

worthy of respect
sincere
not a drunkard
not pursuing dishonest gain
deeply hold the convictions stated in
Cedarcreek's Statement of Faith
loyal to spouse
able to manage household/children

Women:

not malicious talkers
temperate
trustworthy

Ability and willingness (testing) are generally demonstrated by serving in a ministry over time.

How Is A Deacon Appointed?

A Deacon is appointed by the Elders. Deacons are appointed based on the needs within the church and the availability of people meeting the qualifications. Deacons may be removed by the Elders at any time.

Roles of a Deacon

Each Deacon is responsible for his or her specific area of ministry. In addition, Deacons may be asked to function in three specific ways:

1. Every other year the congregation will be asked to reaffirm the pastors. As part of that process, the collective Deacons will choose three Deacons to comprise the panel which will hear the congregations' thoughts regarding reaffirmation. This procedure is outlined in Cedar creek's Pastoral Leadership and Authority paper.
2. If a member of Cedar creek has an ongoing and unresolved conflict with a pastor, the member may choose to have the conflict mediated by a panel which includes one Deacon. This procedure is outlined in Cedar creek's Pastoral Leadership and Authority paper.
3. Each year all staff Pastors will be evaluated on their job performance based on their written Job Description. This evaluation will be made by a panel consisting of all other Pastors, one Trustee and one Deacon. This procedure is outlined in Cedar creek's Pastoral Leadership and Authority paper.