

First Baptist Church At The Villages

THE DEACON MINISTRY, 2019 Guidelines and Responsibilities

The Character of Deacons

- Deacons at FBCATV reflect the spiritual character described in 1 Timothy 3:8-13.

Deacons, likewise, are to be men worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons.

In the same way, their wives are to be women worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything.

A deacon must be the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well. Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus.

The Role of Deacons

- Deacons at FBCATV support and assist the Pastoral Staff in various areas of the church's ministry. They also fulfill the responsibilities detailed below.

The Responsibilities of Deacons

- Believe—Deacons believe the core doctrines of the Christian faith as established in Scripture and expressed in the Baptist Faith and Message.
- Participate—Deacons participate in the activities of FBCATV: large group (Corporate Worship Services), small group (Discipleship/Bible Study Ministry), and special activities (Prayer Services and Service Opportunities), as well as specific Deacons activities.
- Support—Deacons support the church with their time, talent, and treasure. They reflect the application of Biblical teaching in the areas of commitment, spiritual giftedness, and stewardship. Furthermore, Deacons are fully supportive of the mission and ministries of FBCATV as well as the church's Pastors and staff.
- Unite—Deacons are cooperative and collegial in their relationships with other Deacons, the Pastors, the church staff, and the entire church. They work to build consensus and unity among the Deacons and within the church. They neither foster nor contribute to controversy. Instead they work to dispel rumors, obtain answers for member's questions and seek solutions to concerns that may threaten the unity of the church.

The Service of Deacons

- Deacons will contact individuals within the church, as determined by the Pastoral Staff, to provide spiritual support and encouragement as well as to facilitate appropriate care through the various ministries of the church.
- Deacons will serve Communion at designated times during Worship and, as requested, by those who are homebound.

The Selection of Deacons

- Deacons are selected annually through a process that includes an opportunity for nomination and affirmation by church members.

DEACON SELECTION PROCESS, 2019

INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESPONDING

Please complete *either one or both* portions of this Response Form.

1. Print names for clarity.
2. Sign your name to the portions you complete.
3. Return the completed form to the WELCOME CENTER.

The last day to receive responses is Sunday, September 15

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION

Having prayerfully reflected on my spiritual gifting and calling, having thoroughly reviewed The Deacon Ministry Guidelines and Responsibilities, and having sensitively discussed this opportunity with my wife, I request consideration by the church to serve as a Deacon.

Your Name: _____

Your Signature: _____

RECOMMENDATION FOR CONSIDERATION

Having thoroughly reviewed The Deacon Ministry Guidelines and Responsibilities, having prayerfully sought God's leadership concerning possible candidates, and having personally discussed with those possible candidates their willingness to serve, I sincerely recommend the following individual(s) for consideration by the church to serve as a Deacon.

Name(s) of Person(s) being Recommended:

Your Name: _____

Your Signature: _____