

DEACONS

(From the Book of Order)

The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structure, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry.

WHAT DEACONS DO

Deacons participate as active members in a variety of ways: Deacons are often said to be the caring hands of the congregation:

- **Calls and Caring**-offers comfort, care, and support to those who are ill, hospitalized or have experienced loss.
- **Visitation**-stay connected with members of our church family who are homebound or living in care facilities.
- **Family assistance**-offer financial help to individuals and families with temporary emergencies as well as immediate assistance in the form of gift cards for food and gas.
- **Flowers**-create and deliver bouquets
- **Sunshine**-uplift spiritually with cards & prayers to those who are ill, hospitalized or have lost a loved one.
- **Grief Recovery and Support**-facilitate an informal support group for those recovering from the loss of a loved one.
- **Transportation Service**-provide bus transport to those unable to drive to services.
- **Communion Preparation**-prepare communion elements for services, assist in serving, and clean up.
- **Assistance to other organizations** in the community and ministries of this congregation.

The average time commitment for a deacon is two to seven hours per month.