

Deacon for Community Engagement

General Charge for the Role of Deacon within Christ's Church:

- 1) Spotting and Meeting Tangible Needs
- 2) Protecting and Promoting Church Unity
- 3) Serving and Supporting the Elders

Overview:

Recognizing that engaging the city is a key part of a healthy church, the "Deacon for Community Engagement" plays a crucial role in bridging the church's spiritual mission with tangible support and involvement in the local community. Their position involves organizing, leading, and participating in activities that address the needs of the wider community while promoting Christian values and evangelism, helping C!CPP SEE, BE, GIVE, and GO.

Key Responsibilities:

1. Community Outreach and Engagement

The deacon for community engagement is primarily responsible for strategizing efforts to reach out to non-church members and engage with local neighborhoods. This includes coordinating evangelistic events, community service projects, and partnerships with other organizations. As a primarily "outward facing" ministry, the goal is to show the love of Christ through action and build relationships with individuals outside the church to share the gospel.

2. Service and Social Justice Initiatives

This role involves advocating for and organizing service opportunities that address social justice issues, such as poverty, homelessness, hunger, or education. The deacon may work with local charities, government programs, or grassroots initiatives to provide relief and support for people in need, reflecting the church's commitment to serving others in Jesus' name.

3. Building Relationships

A key function is fostering relationships between the church and the local community. The deacon might serve as the point person for individuals seeking help, counseling, or spiritual guidance outside of the regular church service. They may also encourage church members, especially LifeGroups, to engage in local missions and service opportunities, promoting a sense of purpose and active participation in the life of the church.

4. Facilitating Volunteerism and Mobilizing Congregation

The deacon for community engagement helps mobilize church members to serve in various local projects and initiatives. They may organize teams, coordinate schedules, and ensure that church volunteers are equipped with the resources and support needed to serve effectively.

5. Partnership with Local Organizations

Developing relationships with local schools, non-profits, governmental bodies, and other faith-based organizations is vital. The deacon might work to form partnerships that allow the church to pool resources and expertise in order to serve the community more effectively. These collaborations can help expand the church's impact and create opportunities for shared missions.

6. Communication and Advocacy

In this role, the deacon often serves as a liaison, communicating the needs of the community to the church leadership, and vice versa. They advocate for those in need and ensure that the church is responding appropriately to issues that arise in the community. They might also be responsible for communicating community events, outreach opportunities, and the church's impact through newsletters, social media, or announcements.

7. Evangelism and Discipleship

The deacon for community engagement is involved in both evangelism and discipleship, encouraging individuals to become followers of Christ. They are knowledgeable about the C!Discipleship Pathway as well as resources available from the CNBC, SEND Network, etc.

8. Building a Welcoming Church Culture

Together with the other leaders and leadership teams of the church, we create an inviting, inclusive atmosphere for community members who might not yet attend church. The deacon helps encourage a culture of hospitality within the church, ensuring that newcomers feel welcome and supported as they learn about the faith and become involved in the church community.