

Deacon Application Instructions

Overview of the Office of Deacon

Serving as the “backbone” of church ministry, deacons oversee many of the day-to-day activities of the church. These men and women use their gifting and skills to ensure the church is able to continue onward in its mission in responsible ways that reflect wise stewardship of God’s blessing.

Each of our deacons are responsible for specific areas of church and ministry leadership and serve alongside other deacons to carry out these responsibilities. Additionally, they also aid the elders and pastors of the church in carrying out the churches overall mission.

While any person meeting the Biblical requirements, as well as our churches constitutional requirements, is welcome to apply to become a deacon, all applicants must follow the full process prior to becoming a deacon at Strasburg Community Church.

Deacon Questionnaire Overview

The application for becoming a deacon consists of three parts: a questionnaire to ascertain the applicants spiritual, philosophical, and personal identity; character references from two current members of the church; and, if applicable, a brief questionnaire for the applicants spouse to ensure that they are in support of their spouses desire to serve as a deacon.

Our Process

Step One: Read, or listen to, the book, “Deacons,” by Matthew Smethurst, and “Elders” by Jeramie Rinne. These books provide a wonderful overview of what the role and responsibility of deacons and elders are, and provide insight in to what will be expected of you as a deacon of Strasburg Community Church

Step Two: Fill out the “Deacon Candidate Questionnaire” and then submit it, via email, to the senior pastor. The questionnaire consists of three parts: the applicants questionnaire, two character references, and, if applicable, a spousal questionnaire. Your questionnaire will be confidential and will only be read by the deacons and elders. Steps one and two may be completed simultaneously, but the applicant may not proceed until both steps have been completed.

Step Three: Once you have completed the first two steps, the deacons will reach out to you to schedule a time to meet with you about your interest in becoming a deacon. If they believe you would be a good fit and are Biblically qualified to become a deacon, you will be invited to continue on in the process. If not, then they will clearly communicate the reasons why not.

Step Four: Once an applicant has been deemed a good fit to become a deacon, they will be invited to sit in deacon meetings so that both the applicant and the existing deacons better understand the “heartbeat” of what it means to serve as a deacon. This step will last between 3-6 months.

Step Five: Once the previous step has been completed and both the applicant and deacon board continue to believe the applicant to be a good fit to serve as a deacon, the congregation will be notified of the applicants desire to become a deacon. As per the churches constitution, the applicant will be nominated by the elders, and then voted upon by the church members and installed as a deacon, if approved by the church.

At any time in this process the applicant, the deacon board, or the elder board may stop the process and withdraw their application.

If you have any questions regarding the process or the questionnaire, please feel free to contact one of the deacons or elders.



DEACON CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

NAME

DATE

EMAIL

PHONE NUMBER

ARE YOU CURRENTLY A MEMBER OF STRASBURG COMMUNITY CHURCH?

HAVE YOU COMPLETED READING OR LISTENING TO THE BOOKS "ELDERS" BY JERAMIE RINNE AND "DEACONS" BY MATTHEW SMETHURST?

PERSONAL QUESTIONS

PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW YOU CAME TO KNOW THE LORD

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CURRENTLY?

WHAT DO YOU FEEL ARE YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS? HOW AND WHEN DID YOU IDENTIFY THEM? HOW ARE YOU ACTIVELY USING THEM NOW?

WHO ARE YOU ACTIVELY DISCIPLING NOW AND WHAT DOES THAT LOOK LIKE?

ARE YOU AWARE OF ANY RELATIONAL ISSUES WITHIN THE CHURCH THAT WOULD HINDER YOUR ABILITY TO SERVE AS A DEACON?

PLEASE TELL US HOW YOU LIKE TO SPEND YOUR FREE TIME. HOBBIES, INTERESTS, ETC.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN ATTENDING STRASBURG COMMUNITY CHURCH?

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR OVERALL ATTITUDE TOWARD AND RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SENIOR PASTOR OF STRASBURG COMMUNITY CHURCH?

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR OVERALL ATTITUDE TOWARD AND RELATIONSHIP WITH EACH OF THE ELDERS OF STRASBURG COMMUNITY CHURCH?

PLEASE TELL US THE AREAS OF MINISTRY YOU ARE CURRENTLY SERVING IN?

HOW DO YOU RESPOND TO CRITICISM? WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN THINGS DO NOT GO YOUR WAY? PLEASE PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE.

HOW DO YOU TEND TO RESPOND WHEN DISAGREEMENTS OR CONFLICTS ARISE? PLEASE PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE.

HOW DO YOU HANDLE STRESS OR PRESSURE? PLEASE PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE.

FAMILY QUESTIONS

IF YOU ARE SINGLE OR CURRENTLY IN A DATING RELATIONSHIP , PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW YOU PURSUE AND MAINTAIN RELATIONSHIP PURITY WITH THE OPPOSITE SEX. SKIP THIS QUESTION IF IT DOES NOT APPLY TO YOU.

IF YOU HAVE BEEN DIVORCED PLEASE DESCRIBE THE NATURE AND REASONS FOR THAT DIVORCE. SKIP THIS QUESTION IF IT DOES NOT APPLY TO YOU.

IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY MARRIED, PLEASE TELL US ABOUT THE CONDITION AND QUALITY OF YOUR MARRIAGE AT THE PRESENT TIME.

IS YOUR SPOUSE SUPPORTIVE OF YOUR DESIRE TO BECOME A DEACON?

IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN STILL RESIDING IN THE HOME, PLEASE TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT EACH OF THEM.

IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN STILL RESIDING IN THE HOME, PLEASE TELL US HOW YOU ARE ACTIVELY HELPING THEM TO CULTIVATE A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE STATE OF YOUR PERSONAL/FAMILY FINANCES?

HOW ARE YOU STEWARDING YOUR FINANCES TO SUPPORT THE FURTHERING OF THE GOSPEL?

DOCTRINAL QUESTIONS

IN YOUR OWN WORDS, PLEASE DESCRIBE THE BIBLICAL QUALIFICATIONS OF A DEACON.

IN YOUR OWN WORDS, PLEASE DESCRIBE WHAT WOULD DISQUALIFY A PERSON FROM BEING A DEACON.

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE TO BE THE PRIMARY ROLES/RESPONSIBILITIES OF A DEACON

DESCRIBE YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE TERM "ABOVE REPROACH."

HAVE YOU READ THROUGH THE CHURCH'S BYLAWS, CONSTITUTION, AND DOCTRINAL POSITIONS?

DO YOU HAVE ANY HESITANCIES ABOUT THE DOCTRINAL POSITIONS OF STRASBURG COMMUNITY CHURCH? IF SO, WHAT ARE THEY?

PHILOSOPHICAL QUESTIONS

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE TO BE THE PURPOSE OF THE LOCAL CHURCH?

HOW DO YOU VIEW THE PRACTICAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE ROLES OF DEACON AND ELDER?

HOW DO YOU VIEW THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHURCH MEMBERS AND DEACONS?

WHY DO YOU WANT TO SERVE AS A DEACON? WHAT EVIDENCE DO YOU SEE IN YOUR LIFE THAT GOD HAS CALLED YOU TO BECOME A DEACON?

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE GREATEST NEED IN OUR CHURCH TODAY? HOW DO YOU SEE YOURSELF ADDRESSING THIS NEED?

DESCRIBE YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE ROLE OF "SHEPHERD" WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF BEING A DEACON.

DESCRIBE YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE PHRASE, "CONSENSUS IN DECISION MAKING."

DESCRIBE YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORD, "CONFIDENTIALITY."

EACH OF OUR DEACONS OVERSEE CERTAIN AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY AS THEY CARRY OUT THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES ALONGSIDE OTHER DEACONS. WHICH AREA(S) ARE YOU INTERESTED IN? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> HOSPITALITY | <input type="checkbox"/> BENEVOLENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CAREGIVING | <input type="checkbox"/> FINANCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MINISTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> FACILITIES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OUTREACH | <input type="checkbox"/> HR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MISSIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> SECURITY |

AS PART OF THE PROCESS FOR BECOMING A DEACON WE WILL ASK FOR AT LEAST TWO CHARACTER REFERENCES FROM CHURCH MEMBERS (NOT CURRENT ELDERS OR DEACONS). PLEASE PROVIDE THE NAMES AND EMAIL ADDRESSES OF THOSE INDIVIDUALS YOU WOULD LIKE US TO SEND THE REFERENCE TO. THEY WILL BE ASKED THE FOLLOWING QUESTION: DO YOU SUPPORT THIS PERSONS DESIRE TO BECOME A DEACON AT STRASBURG COMMUNITY CHURCH? WHAT EVIDENCE DO YOU SEE IN THEIR LIFE THAT GOD HAS CALLED HIM TO BECOME A DEACON?

NAME EMAIL

NAME EMAIL