

Deacons

The Deacons at Faith Presbyterian Church focus on pastoral care and communication. That is, they focus on the care and support of the members of the congregation and communicating important events in the life and ministry of the church. As a result, the duties of the Deacons involve the use of basic caregiving skills such as active listening, sensitive contact, regular communication, and timely follow-up.

The Deacons continue to make some changes as it seeks to address the needs of the congregation in its mission as caregiver. They are shifting from geographically predetermined zones to teams, making it easier to manage the phone calls and communication and eliminating the need to redraw the zones as new members are added.

The responsibilities of the Deacons include:

- Pray regularly for those in the zone/team;
- Communicate with members (including staff and pastors) in a timely fashion, including home visits, phone conversation and cards or notes by mail, relating information and concerns to the church staff;
- In time of special need, make personal visits to home, workplace, or hospital;
- Maintain confidentiality;
- Be sensitive, responsive, and appropriate with members;
- Provide limited guidance;
- Relay information to other Deacons and members as appropriate; and
- Assist with the assimilation of new members.

The Deacons conduct a retreat in the fall to focus on issues such as understanding the dynamics of congregations through transitions in leadership, size, and culture (the 2008 retreat). The retreat also provided the Deacons with further education in pastoral care and wonderful fellowship as they desire to grow more effective in their call to provide care to the congregation.

With the help of our Faith family, the Deacons continued to support the food pantry at Westminster Neighborhood Ministries several Bag-it Sundays (for 2008, there were five such collections of food).

Faith's all-church luncheons are held periodically (for 2008, they were held on Sundays, August 17 and December 7). The August luncheon was served family style; while the December luncheon was catered. Both luncheons were a wonderful time of fellowship for the entire congregation. The Deacons also helped the Life Together team by serving two luncheons in the first half of the year.

The 2008 Strawberry Festival was held on June 14. Food, games, music, and fellowship was enjoyed not only by our Faith family but also the surrounding community. For 2008, the Deacons offered a "drive-up" station and found this to be very successful.

The Deacons sincerely wish to walk along with the members of Faith Presbyterian Church in life; to be there for the church not only in times of struggle but also in joy. With the guidance of God, our Father; the grace and love of Jesus Christ, our Savior; and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit the Board of Deacons strives to be faithful servants in God's church.