

RECAPPING THE ELDER & DEACON SERVING TEAM ROLES

ELDER	DEACON/DEACONESS
OVERALL MANDATE	
Oversee The Spiritual Wellbeing Of The Flock	Serve The Practical Needs Of The Individuals
GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pray for the flock • Protect the flock • Prepare the flock • Pilot (<i>Lead</i>) the flock • Pastor the flock 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct Benevolent Ministry • Coordinate Ministry to Shut Ins • Oversee Membership Care • Coordinate Special Ministry Needs • Be available as needs arise
OVERALL IMPACT	
<p><u>Everyone Benefits:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Body Is Fulfilled As they are cared for, built up & protected. • The Deacons/Deaconesses Are Fulfilled As they use their gifts on the front lines of ministry, meeting the practical needs of the flock. • The Elders Are Fulfilled As they study God's Word, pray and oversee the wellbeing of the flock. <p style="text-align: center;"><i>"Shared Responsibilities Build Strong Ministries"</i></p>	

WOL 2023 Nominations

The annual election of church officers will occur at a special congregational business meeting held on **December 3, 2023**, at **5:30pm**, please bring a dessert to share.

The following officers of the church are to be approved for nomination by the Elder team and elected by the church:

- ♦ Deacons
- ♦ Deaconesses
- ♦ Trustees
- ♦ Church Treasurer
- ♦ Financial Secretary
- ♦ Church Clerk

(Responsibilities and qualifications can be found in the church Bylaws. For full details on these positions, refer to the Word of Life Baptist Church, Job Description Manual.)

The Elders will accept nominations any time up to **November 19th**, at which time nominations will be closed.

With your prayerful & careful consideration, any member may submit a member's names to be considered for these positions.

A Word About the Deacon Serving Team

We are especially asking that you prayerfully seek after the Lord's will regarding our Deacon Serving Team roles. In a church our size, there are many practical needs that arise. It's our desire to see a large pool of qualified deacons and deaconesses to help keep things manageable for this team and effective for you. Their ministry is a significant blessing both to the congregation and the Elders combined.

On the inside of this brochure, you will find information to help refresh your understanding of their qualifications and responsibilities. Please review them thoughtfully as you seek the Lord's direction for candidates.

As you consider making a nomination, let the Apostles words from Acts 6 guide you, *"Brothers and sisters, choose...from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom."*

May the Lord's will be done as we soberly consider who might serve in these roles.

-The Elders at WOL

(Nomination forms can be found at the Welcome Center)

The Role of Our Deacon Serving Team

Based on I Tim. 3:8-13, Phil. 1:1, with support from Acts 6:1-7 and Rom. 16:1, we believe that the Deacon & Deaconess Serving Team role is an integral part of the WOL ministry structure.

Although the scriptures don't reveal a great measure of detail, as we have studied what the scriptures do teach about this role, our desire has been to honor the simplicity and purity of God's intent by making it no more and no less than what we clearly find in the pages of His Word.

As a result, the following is our simple, but practical ministry description:

- **The Overall Vision:** Deacons and deaconesses at WOL are a pool of biblically qualified and officially recognized servants who are ready and available for regular care through communication with the church body and specific hands on ministry assignments that both serve the practical needs of the flock and free up the elders to focus on their own biblically mandated responsibilities.
- **Qualifications:** Deacons and deaconesses at WOL will be those who:
 - Are worthy of respect (I Tim. 3:8, v11)
 - Are sincere (I Tim. 3:8)
 - Do not indulge in much wine (I Tim. 3:8)
 - Do not pursue dishonest gain (I Tim. 3:8)
 - Keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience (I Tim. 3:9)
 - Are tested and approved (I Tim. 3:10)
 - Are not to be malicious talkers (I Tim. 3:11)
 - Are temperate (I Tim. 3:11)
 - Are trustworthy (I Tim. 3:11)
 - Are the husband of but one wife (I Tim. 3:12)
 - Manage his house children and his household well. (I Tim. 3:12)
 - Are known (familiar) (Acts 6:3)
 - Are full of the Spirit (Acts 6:3)
 - Are full of wisdom (Acts 6:3)
 - Are full of faith (Acts 6:5)
- **Responsibilities:** On a regular basis, deacons and deaconesses will carry the responsibility to:
 - Oversee **Membership Care and Health**
 - New members process

- Follow up care for current members, including periodic contact with an assigned group of people
- Care for those unable to care for themselves
- Coordinate **Visitation & Communion** with shut ins and those unable to connect regularly
- Direct the **Benevolent Ministry**
- Coordinate **Special Ministry** occasions or needs
 - Coordinate communion preparation
 - Coordinate and prepare child dedications
 - Coordinate the baptismal preparation process
 - Coordinate flowers, cards, gifts etc. for those hospitalized
 - Coordinate meals for those with illness, bereavement, etc.
 - Coordinate Funeral Care/Prep: set up and serving teams, family care; special needs at funeral home (food)

On an ongoing basis, the deacons and deaconesses will be available for special ministry assignments as they arise (i.e. new believer follow up, discipleship assessment, preliminary counseling, etc.).

- **Selection:** Deacons and deaconess candidates will be submitted by the congregation to the Elder Team, reviewed and recommended by the Elder Team and annually elected by the congregation.

The Role of Our Trustee Team

The Trustee Team exists to provide a Christ-honoring place of worship, instruction, and fellowship by caring for the physical property of Word of Life Baptist Church.

Trustees should be hands-on people, who are willing to lend a hand, assuming the responsibility to help maintain our facilities in communication with the lead Trustee.

(Updated 10/25/23)

If you would like to hear more on the role of elders and deacons at WOL, we would encourage you to listen to the October 11th, '15 message titled, "BIG Leadership". You can access most easily by watching it on our YouTube channel (Word Of Life Baptist Church):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1qNYX8YegLc&t=1s>

NOMINATION FORM FOR 2023 ELECTIONS

With your prayerful & careful consideration, any member may submit a member's names to be considered for these positions.

As you consider making a nomination, let the Apostles words from Acts 6 guide you, *"Brothers and sisters, choose...from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom."*

May the Lord's will be done as we soberly consider who might serve in these roles.

Candidates to be considered for nomination can be given to any elder or placed in the nomination box in the foyer.

(Nominations Will Close On 11/19/2023)

When submitting a name to be considered, please share the following information in writing:

- 1) Your name: _____
- 2) The name to be considered: _____
- 3) Mark the position for which you'd like them to be considered:
 - Deacon (*Deacon Serving Team*)
 - Deaconess (*Deacon Serving Team*)
 - Trustee
 - Church Treasurer
 - Financial Secretary
 - Church Clerk
- 4) The reason you feel they are qualified for this position:
(Please share specific spiritual qualities, gifting you would affirm.)

(Feel free to use the back if you need more room.)

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