

Deacon Covenant of Beargrass Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Members of the church family have recognized your spiritual gifts, maturity, and commitment and nominated you to serve the church as Deacon. When you accept the call to become a Deacon, you are saying “yes” to one of the most challenging and rewarding positions in the community of faith. Deacons have been growing closer to God through service for centuries and there are numerous references to Deacons in the Bible (Numbers 11:16-17; Titus 1:5-9; James 5:13-16; 1 Peter 5:1-5; 1 Timothy 3:1-7). Being named as a Deacon is not simply an honorary position, but one that carries significant responsibilities and opportunities for growth.

We covenant with you to provide a greater opportunity to grow as a servant leader in the Church. As a Deacon, you will have a greater responsibility to *worship regularly*, *grow intentionally* and *serve generously*, and you will grow spiritually as we journey together. Enhanced opportunities include:

Worship Regularly

- Grow in personal holiness by engaging in the spiritual disciplines of prayer, study and reflection.
- Your prayers will be sought out for members of the Church family, as well as those mentioned in concerns and email requests
- Your regular worship attendance will provide additional opportunities to serve communion, to greet, to usher and to serve where needed
- You will learn to practice Christian hospitality and to be attentive to members and guests expressing a sincere interest in them as fellow Christians
- You will have opportunities to communicate your ideas to the ministries and staff to help make the services more meaningful for all
- As you grow through regular worship, you will offer a more Christ-like example to others and provide spiritual guidance for your friends in the Church family

Grow Intentionally

- Give attention to the work of the Spirit—share your spiritual gifts, talents, and abilities.
- Regularly participate in a Sunday School class and/or faith development small group of the church.
- Look for opportunities to teach and/or provide leadership for classes and small groups.
- Be actively involved in at least one of the ministry teams within the church.
- Participate in the evangelistic efforts of the church—share your faith and invite others to church.

Serve Generously

- Be actively involved in at least one of the outreach ministries of the church.
- Share in the “Bread Delivery” program for our guests and prospective members (2-3 times/year).
- Attend quarterly Board meetings—be aware of what is going on at Beargrass.
- Support the mission and ministry of the church financially—Deacons are expected to make pledges.
- Set an example of what it means to be good stewards of all our God-given gifts.
- Be willing and ready to minister to the sick, homebound, and spiritually troubled; be a “shepherd.”
- Be the “eyes and ears” of the congregation—pass along information to the ministerial staff.

In the service of the laying on of hands, our faith community pledges their support for you and prays that God will empower you to serve faithfully. Having read this Deacon Covenant of Beargrass Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), I commit myself to the joys and responsibilities of this servant role. I understand that Deacons serve for a period of three years, which is followed by a sabbatical year. I also understand that I cannot “do it all.” As I accept this call I am offering my gifts along to be shared with the gifts of all who are serving as Deacons and members of the Church in the service of our God.

Prayerfully signed: _____ Date: _____

Elder Covenant of Beargrass Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Members of the church family have recognized your spiritual gifts, maturity, and commitment and nominated you to serve the church as Elder. When you accept the call to become an Elder, you are saying “yes” to one of the most challenging and rewarding positions in the community of faith. Elders have been growing closer to God through service for centuries and there are numerous references to Elders in the Bible (Numbers 11:16-17; Titus 1:5-9; James 5:13-16; 1 Peter 5:1-5; 1 Timothy 3:1-7). Being named as an Elder is not simply an honorary position, but one that carries significant responsibilities and opportunities for growth.

We covenant with you to provide a greater opportunity to grow as a servant leader in the Church. As an Elder, you will have a greater responsibility to *worship regularly*, *grow intentionally* and *serve generously*, and you will grow spiritually as we journey together. Enhanced opportunities include:

Worship Regularly

- Grow in personal holiness by engaging in the spiritual disciplines of prayer, study and reflection.
- Your prayers will be sought out for members of the Church family, as well as those mentioned in concerns and email requests
- You will have opportunities to be a lay leader during services, including sharing of communion prayers and offerings
- Your regular worship attendance will provide additional opportunities to serve communion, to greet, to usher and to serve where needed
- You will learn to practice Christian hospitality and to be attentive to members and guests expressing a sincere interest in them as fellow Christians
- You will have opportunities to communicate your ideas to the ministries and staff to help make the services more meaningful for all
- As you grow through regular worship, you will offer a more Christ-like example to others and provide spiritual guidance for your friends in the Church family

Grow Intentionally

- Give attention to the work of the Spirit—share your spiritual gifts, talents, and abilities.
- Regularly participate in a Sunday School class and/or faith development small group of the church.
- Look for opportunities to teach and/or provide leadership for classes and small groups.
- Be actively involved in at least one of the ministry teams within the church.
- Participate in the evangelistic efforts of the church—share your faith and invite others to church.
- Attend periodic gatherings of the Elders and program staff.

Serve Generously

- Be actively involved in at least one of the outreach ministries of the church.
- Share in the “Elder-on-Call” program for our hospitalized and homebound members (2-3 times/year).
- Attend quarterly Board meetings—be aware of what is going on at Beargrass.
- Support the mission and ministry of the church financially—Elders are expected to make pledges.
- Set an example of what it means to be good stewards of all our God-given gifts.
- Be willing and ready to minister to the sick, homebound, and spiritually troubled; be a “shepherd.”
- Be the “eyes and ears” of the congregation—pass along information to the ministerial staff.

In the service of the laying on of hands, our faith community pledges their support for you and prays that God will empower you to serve faithfully. Having read this Elder Covenant of Beargrass Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), I commit myself to the joys and responsibilities of this servant role. I understand that elders serve for a period of three years, which is followed by a sabbatical year. I also understand that I cannot “do it all.” As I accept this call I am offering my gifts along to be shared with the gifts of all who are serving as elders and members of the Church in the service of our God.

Prayerfully signed: _____ Date: _____