



### The Office of Deacon

God gave the New Testament church the office of Deacon to serve local churches as model servants of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is our perfect example of humble service and sacrificial love (**Isaiah 53; Matthew 20:20-28; John 13:12-17; Philippians 2:1-11**). Deacons are called to assist and support the leadership of the Elders (**Philippians 1:1; Hebrews 13:17**), by serving as helpful problem solvers to meet many of the logistical, fiscal, and physical needs in the ministries of the church (**Acts 6:1-3**). In obedience to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (**Ephesians 4:1-3**), Deacons fulfill a vital role of preserving unity in the local church between Elders and the congregation (**Acts 6:1-7**). A qualified Deacon therefore, must show a consistent, exemplary pattern of godliness, peace-making, humility, and efficient service in the body of Christ (**1 Timothy 3:8-13**). Deacons who serve well will support the Elders' primary ministry of shepherding the church with the word of God and prayer. A deacon then, must hold firm to sound doctrine and eagerly desire to see the gospel advanced through the ministry of the local church (**Acts 6:2-4,7; 1 Timothy 3:9**). Each person evaluated for this office must possess a desire and skill for this office (**Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 27-28; 1 Peter 4:10-11**), but should never be affirmed hastily without proper examination and earnest prayer (see **1 Timothy 3:10; 5:22**).

### To the Deacons:

1. Do you reaffirm your faith in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God eternally existing in three persons, the Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

**I do.**

2. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the inerrant Word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and thus the supreme, final, and the only infallible rule of

faith and practice?

**I do.**

3. Do you subscribe to the Statement of Faith, Church Covenant, and By-Laws of Chaffee Crossing Baptist Church?

**I do.**

4. Do you, as far as you know in your own heart, desire to accept the office of Deacon, not because of selfish ambition, but because of your love for God and Christ's bride the church?

**I do.**

5. The Scriptures instruct that deacons must display a Christlike humility and godly life before their families, the local church, and the onlooking world. Do you pledge, with God's help, to conduct yourself in such a manner?

**I will, by the grace of God.**

6. Are you now willing to take personal responsibility in the life of this congregation as a deacon to serve this church and assist the elders in their ministry, relying upon the grace of God and the leading of the Holy Spirit, in such a way that Chaffee Crossing Baptist Church and the entire Church of Jesus Christ will be blessed?

**I am, with God's help.**

### **To the Congregation:**

1. Do you, the members of Chaffee Crossing Baptist Church, acknowledge and publicly receive these members to serve in the office of Deacon of this local church?

**We do.**

2. Do you promise to encourage them and pray for them in their ministry as deacons, and work together with them humbly and cheerfully, that by the grace of God we may fulfill the mission of this church, to the glory and honor of God?

**We do.**