

The Deacons of Sugar Land Baptist Church are organized into the following ministry teams:

Caring & Benevolence Team

- Assist staff with pastoral ministry in **times of crisis** for church members.
- Assist deacon officers with **benevolence requests and opportunities**.
- **Shut-ins** - Maintain a list and profile of members who are restricted to home or retirement center, develop a visitation schedule for visits every 2 weeks, keep staff informed and take the Lord's Supper to shut-ins at special times of the year.
- **Hospital visitation** - Develop visitation schedule to insure daily visits to any member, update staff on status, and work with staff and Sunday School leadership to know who is in the hospital and who is scheduled to enter.
- **Loaves & Fishes** - Coordinate deacons and other members to serve at Loaves and Fishes once per month, and solicit money and food donations to be used.

Prayer & Evangelism Team

- **Develop** intercessory prayer ministry.
- **Provide** training and opportunities for deacons and all church members to become involved in prayer.
- **Pray** with individuals who request prayer.
- **First time visitors** - Work to contact first time visitors.
- **Evangelism/Outreach** - Contact church members either not involved in Sunday School or with no record of attendance for six months, develop special visitation programs, and contact outreach to local retirement centers.
- **Discover witness opportunities** for deacons, such as working with the Juvenile Detention Center and the homeless in downtown Houston.

New Member Care

- **Decision Counseling** - serve as decision counselors for worship services.
- **New Member Orientation** - Contact assigned new members to offer a personal welcome to the Sugar Land Baptist Church family. Encourage their participation in the next Discovery Day and, after that, in an ongoing Bible study
- **New Member follow-up** after one month.

Worship Team

- **Deacon On-Call Responsibilities** - Ensure there are deacons available each week and develop duties for the deacon on call.
- **Special Worship Services** - Prepare and serve the Lord's Supper at services and work with staff to support and advertise any special services. (Easter, Christmas, etc.)
- **Baptism** - Provide assistance for staff and baptismal candidates.

Serving & Fellowship Team

- **Fellowship Activities** - Plan and coordinate activities, staffing and food for the Valentine's Banquet, Fireman's Thanksgiving Dinner, Fourth of July and Welcome Home Fellowship events.
- **Mission Support** - Work with church mission committee and mission organizations (GA's and RA's) to support mission activities.
- **Support Service** - Home repairs and painting, transportation, car repair and other similar projects.
- **Discover** and implement opportunities for improving church fellowship.

The Deacon Ministry of



“Deacons are to be worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons.”

1 Timothy 3:8-10 (NIV)

Do you know . . .

the roles deacons fill at Sugar Land Baptist Church? Whether your answer is yes or no, we hope this brochure will help provide a better understanding of the diaconate’s purpose. With the deacon selection process upcoming this fall, it is vital to have an informed church body prayerfully and actively participating in the nomination of new deacons.

Purpose of Deacons

Our church by-laws state that the purpose of the diaconate shall be to discharge faithfully the duties of deacons of a New Testament Church as set forth in Acts 6:1-7 and I Timothy 3:8-13. In accordance with the meaning of the work and the practice in the New Testament, deacons are to be servants of the church. Their task is to serve with the pastor and staff in performing the pastoral ministries of (1) leading the church in the achievement of its mission, (2) proclaiming the gospel to believers and unbelievers, and (3) caring for the church’s members and persons in the community.

Deacon Leadership & Organization

The Sugar Land Baptist Church by-laws state that the deacons have a minimum of the following officers: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. In addition, teams have been organized within the deacon body to assist in accomplishing the pastoral ministries. Each deacon is a member of a team based on spiritual gifts, and is also expected to help in the other areas as needed.

“ . . . their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food . . . the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, ‘It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.’”
(Acts 6:1b-4)

Deacon Selection

At Sugar Land Baptist, deacons are nominated and elected by the membership. They are to be people who

- (1) meet the spiritual qualifications of a deacon outlined in 1 Timothy 3:8-10;
- (2) are sufficiently grounded in the doctrines of the Bible as accepted by this church;
- (3) have been a member for at least six months; and
- (4) regularly support the church through tithes and offerings; and
- (5) agree to fulfill the responsibilities of the deacon. They can be either male or female.

Deacon nominees will be examined by a committee, elected by the membership, and ordained by the church. They will serve a three-year term on one of the ministry teams. After serving a term of three years, a deacon shall be classified as a “Reserve Deacon,” and shall be eligible for reelection to active status only after the lapse of at least one year.

Deacon elections are held annually to ensure that an adequate number are available to serve the needs of the church, to recognize those who have grown spiritually, and to incorporate those who have transferred into this fellowship.

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.” (1 Peter 4:10)

Sugar Land Baptist Church
Deacon Nomination Form

After reviewing and reflecting on the qualifications, purposes and responsibilities of Deacons at Sugar Land Baptist Church, I nominate the following people who have agreed to serve if elected:

Your name:

Completed form may be placed in the offering plate or delivered to the church office.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING
NOMINATIONS IS
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2019

Cut along dotted line