



ADDENDUM I

Responsibilities and Duties of Local Church Pastoral Leadership

ELDERS, PROVISIONAL ELDERS, LICENSED LOCAL PASTORS

Book of Discipline: ¶ 340. Responsibilities and Duties of Elders and Local Pastors

ELDERS have a fourfold ministry of Word, Sacrament, Order, and Service and thus serve in the local church and in extension ministries in witness and service of Christ's love and justice. Elders are authorized to preach and teach the Word, to provide pastoral care and counsel, to administer the sacraments, and to order the life of the church for service in mission and ministry as pastors, superintendents, and bishops.

LICENSED LOCAL PASTORS share with the elders the responsibilities and duties of a pastor for this fourfold ministry, of Word, Sacrament, Order and service within the context of their appointment.

Word and Ecclesial Acts:

- To preach the Word of God, lead in worship, read and teach the Scriptures, and engage the people in study and witness.
- To counsel persons with personal, ethical, or spiritual struggles.
- To perform the ecclesial acts of marriage and burial.
- To visit in the homes of the church and the community, especially among the sick, aged, imprisoned, and others in need.
- To maintain all confidences inviolate, including confessional confidences except in the cases of suspected child abuse or neglect, or in cases where mandatory reporting is required by civil law.

Sacrament

- To administer the sacraments of baptism and the Supper of the Lord according to Christ's ordinance.
- To encourage the private and congregational use of the other means of grace.

Order

- To be the administrative officer of the local church and to assure that the organizational concerns of the congregation are adequately provided for including finance and administration of church operations.
- To be responsible for organizational faithfulness, goal setting, planning and evaluation.
- To administer the temporal affairs of the church in their appointment, the annual conference, and the general church.
- To participate in denominational and conference programs and training opportunities.
- To lead the congregation in racial and ethnic inclusiveness.

Service

- To embody the teachings of Jesus in servant ministries and servant leadership.
- To give diligent pastoral leadership in ordering the life of the congregation for discipleship in the world.
- To build the body of Christ as a caring and giving community, extending the ministry of Christ to the world.
- To participate in community, ecumenical and inter-religious concerns and to encourage the people to become so involved and to pray and labor for the unity of the Christian community.

Other Specific Duties based on your local church/ministry (for example property management, children's ministry, music, education, social justice)

DEACONS/PROVISIONAL DEACONS

Book of Discipline ¶329. Ministry, Authority, and Responsibilities of Deacons

DEACONS are persons called by God, authorized by the Church, and ordained by a bishop to lifetime ministry of Word, Service, Compassion, and Justice, to both the community and the congregation in a ministry that connects the two. Deacons exemplify Christian discipleship and create opportunities for others to enter into discipleship.

The work of deacons is a work of justice, serving with compassion as they seek to serve those on the margins of society. In the congregation, the ministry of the deacon is to teach and to form disciples, and to lead worship together with other ordained clergy and laypersons. A Deacon's specific role and duties varies and is based in part on their call, gifts and the needs of their appointed local church or ministry context. Deacons are called to a lifetime of servant leadership. In the church's life they give leadership in:

Word

- in the teaching and proclamation of the Word

Service

- in worship and in assisting the elders in the administration of the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper

- in forming and nurturing disciples
- in conducting marriages and burying the dead

Compassion and Justice

- in the congregation's mission to the world and
- in leading the congregation in interpreting the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world

Other Specific Duties based on your local church/ministry (for example children's ministry, music, education, social justice, property management)