

Roles for Deacons at MCC of the Palm Beaches

Deacons have various roles and functions with MCC and indeed in other denominations. [The UCC envisions deacons serving in outreach and worship.](#) [The Presbyterian Church, USA, views deacons as congregational caregivers.](#) In the Roman Catholic and Episcopal Churches, deacons are ordained and have several of the roles mentioned above as well as liturgical functions. Rev. Marie served as a (lay) liturgical deacon in a couple of churches, and believes this is an important deacon role as well.

Take a look at the descriptions below to see if you are interested in attending a deacon information day to explore being a deacon at MCC of the Palm Beaches. If you are now or have been a deacon at MCC of the Palm Beaches, please attend the information day as well to learn how Rev. Marie views this vital ministry in the church. Tentative date for the training is October 31 from 10 to 1, but this can be shifted based on the needs of the participants.

Deacons are blessed and installed volunteers who hold a special place in the church. They report to the pastor.

Liturgical Deacon – responsible for modeling the service for others, making sure the altar is set up properly, helping in all ways with the service preparation and execution, is more often than not “on the altar” with the pastor during communion, reads scripture at times. Serves communion. Recruits others to help with duties as needed/desired.

Deacon for Pastoral Care – responsible for get well, birthday, and other cards and recognitions. May do pastoral visits, take communion to those who aren’t able to come to (virtual) church. Stays as aware as possible of people’s needs and concerns and reports to the pastor. Reads scripture and participates in other parts of the service. Serves communion. Recruits others to help with duties as needed/desired.

Deacon for Service and Outreach – coordinates response when someone requests material help from the church. Brings to the pastor congregation needs and concerns of the community that could be addressed by the congregation. Coordinates the prayers of the people each Sunday to lift up needs and concerns

of the world, the nation, the local community, and MCCPB. Also coordinates logistics like ushers, greeters, coffee hour. Serves communion. Recruits others to help with duties as needed/desired.

All deacons – Serve on the altar regularly. May preach – if desired – with supervision from pastor. Should be robed (white alb) and vested (diagonal stole) on every Sunday that they are serving, whether on the altar or not. Whenever serving, serve as a role model in worship and attend to what's happening, ready to step in if needed. Should take one Sunday a month "off," signified by not robing and vesting.

All deacons will be installed by the pastor, and will be identified on the church website and in the bulletin.