

*Faith Bible Church Deacon Ministry Descriptions – as of April 29, 2015*

**1. Seniors**

**Goal:** to identify needs of seniors and coordinate service and activities to meet those needs.

**Ministry:**

- *Senior Luncheons:* Coordinate quarterly Sunday luncheons for seniors.
- *Senior Activity Day:* Coordinate senior activity day which is the first and third Tuesday November through March and first Tuesday April through October.

**2. Widow Ministry**

**Goal:** To support and encourage the widows and single women of the FBC family.

**Ministry:**

1. Deacons will help with the financial needs of the widows and single women when necessary.
2. Deacons are available for consultation to aid in decision making.
3. Deacons and their wives will help with practical matters such as transportation, home and automobile issues and other needs.

**3. Singles**

**Goal:** To communicate with the leader(s) of the singles (young adults) group to identify any needs that their group or individuals of their group may need.

**Ministry:** Currently, the deacons do not have anything specifically that they come alongside this group to support them. Possible idea of having an annual lunch or dinner for the singles group to get to know them better and to minister to them in a tangible way. This could help the singles group identify new church members that are single and looking for a place to belong.

**4. Sick/ Shut-ins**

Goal:

Ministry:

## **5. Women**

**Goal:** to support this ministry in order to provide opportunities for the women of FBC to develop and utilize their individual and corporate gifts for the building up of the church body and others.

**Ministry:**

- *Care:* assembly and distribution of care/encouragement baskets given to church family members, especially new moms; Freezer Meals; Card Making
- *Fellowship:* Church Picnic, post-Christmas Cantata Program
- *Growth/Bible Study:* Bible Study during Sunday School (Jana Braden); Wednesday morning bible studies; Women's Retreat
- *Kitchen:* supplies are checked on and re-stocked when necessary

**Correlating Ministries:**

- Assimilation: plugging new women into ministries
- Courage to Change: several FBC Women are involved in this ministry.

## **6. Men**

**Goal:** The goal of the ministry is to further the Biblical knowledge of men in an atmosphere of how we are to treat others in our lives relying on the Bible as our guide as we learn to be more like Christ.

**Ministry:** Deacons assist FBC leadership as needed; FBC leadership has offered Sunday morning Men's Bible study as well as outside opportunity taught by Elders and a Thursday morning class with Pastor Wayne. There will be some upcoming ideas of where men can become involved, with Elder Ryan Hutson heading up the plan.

## **7. Orphan Care Ministry**

**Goal:** James 1:27 “. . .to look after orphans and widows in their distress”

**Ministry:** To provide support for orphans, adoptive and foster care families. Support through education, support of adoptive and foster care families with prayer, meals, costs, childcare, referrals for support etc.

## **8. Counseling**

Goal:

Ministry:

**9. Students/Youth** - FBC programs include the Children's Sunday School, Christian Service Brigade, Pioneer Girls, and the Junior/Senior High School Student Ministries comprise the Student/Youth ministries.

**Goal:** Our goal for this ministry is to encourage the leadership responsible for these ministries and be available to help facilitate/resolve any needs for these ministries.

**Ministry:**

- Ensure the current leadership of these ministries is aware of their Deacon points of contact as well as explain our goal.
- Pro-actively reach out to the leadership of these ministries (once per quarter) to see if they have any physical or prayer needs. Bring these requests to the monthly Deacons meeting.

**10. Military**

**Goal:** to encourage all Faith Bible Church Family who are presently serving as members of the United States military, whether it be Active, Reserve or National Guard. To Pray for their well being, and their testimony as followers of Jesus Christ as they sacrifice themselves for the well being of a grateful nation.

**Ministry:**

- to establish communication with each military member on an annual or semiannual basis with cards of encouragement
- to bring a small piece of home to each military member through a "care package" provided by the entire Deacon Board. (Contents could include a New Testament, daily necessities, inspirational book, treats, letter of encouragement from the Deacon Board)
- to encourage the FBC family to participate in this effort of encouragement by participating in a church wide letter/card (s) once a year.
- to encourage the FBC leadership team and the "body" to communicate its support for all military members by identifying them on Memorial Day Sunday, or Veterans Day Sunday as part of the Sunday Worship Service, possibly with an active, reserve, guard or retired military member present and playing a role in the service.
- possibly establish a FBC military family bulletin board- again, so to keep the FBC family up to date on the locations and status of each member and/or family.

## **11. College Students**

**Goal:** to encourage college students in their faith, and encourage them to persevere and honor God in their studies.

**Ministry:**

- *Care packages:* Near the end of September, mail college care packages
  - Update student list. This can be time-consuming and the process should start in August as soon the students return to school. The process requires adding recent graduates to the list and contacting the parents of college students to obtain the current address (if they would like their student to receive a care package).
  - Contents of the basket could include: office supplies, snacks, an inspirational book, a letter of encouragement from the deacons and a Gideon Bible or New Testament
  - Packages should be shipped (possibly research for lowest cost).
  - Estimate should be provided to the deacon board to approve total cost, including postage.
- *Other opportunities:*
  - Deacons will be sensitive to other opportunities through the year to encourage the college students.

## **12. Missions**

**Goal:** The Missions Committee is responsible for the administration of the missions program at Faith Bible Church.

**Ministry:** The Deacon Board maintains regular communication with the Missions Committee of FBC, and provides assistance and support to that ministry as deemed appropriate within the Deacon Board's overall mission.

## **13. Assimilation**

**Goal:** To foster a hospitable and loving church environment where people feel connected to Christ and to the church body through personal relationships and active participation in the ministries of the church.

**Ministry** - To come along side the Assimilation Team by:

- Helping our visitors receive a friendly welcome
- Make our newcomers aware of the opportunities available to them through the deacon ministry
- Stay connected to those new to the church and encourage them to seek assistance when needed

**14. *Courage To Change*** - City Gospel Mission's recovery program for women, Having the Courage to Change, is designed to serve women of diverse backgrounds with equally diverse needs.

This program provides structured transitional living to women who seek to recover from life-controlling behaviors such as substance abuse, prostitution, homelessness, job instability, and abusive relationships. Its holistic approach offers discipleship, life-skills training and individualized treatment in a comfortable residential setting.

Their vision is to see women free from the destructive forces in their lives and to equip them to reach and challenge others to attain wholeness.

**Goal:** Our goal for this ministry is to encourage the women in the Courage to Change program through showing the love of God.

**Ministry:**

- Luncheons will be hosted by the Deacons 2x a year at FBC for the women in the Courage to Change program. The ladies will be invited to the 2nd hour service followed by a time of fellowship and meal. Deacons and their families are encouraged to attend.
- One Saturday a month, ladies (and sometimes men) from FBC visit the ladies from Courage to Change and host a time of crafts, devotions, and fellowship.
- Annual scholarships are awarded by the Deacons to the ladies of Courage to Change. The rules/criteria for the scholarships are outlined in the Deacon handbook.
- Ladies from FBC actively mentor some of the ladies in the Courage to Change program.

**15. *Joni and Friends***

**Goal:** Joni & Friends ministry is dedicated to extending the love and message of Jesus Christ to people who are affected by disability around the world.

**Ministry:** The Deacon ministry would like to come along side families of Faith Bible Church that have disabled children and encourage them and support them in getting involved with the Joni and Friends ministry. The Deacons as well support the Joni and Friends Ohio Ministry in ways that further their ministry.

## **16. Cancer Care**

**Goal:** Provide support to the Cancer Connection Support Group, which was formed to support those who have been, or have family members, diagnosed with cancer. The Cancer Connection Support Group desires to give hope, equip to witness, and be Christ centered.

**Ministry:** As the Support Group develops, the deacons will be sensitive to practical ways to support this ministry.