

Deacons

Purpose:

A deacon is to be called from within the local church and demonstrate a commitment to the health and future of that body. Spiritual maturity and the fruits of the spirit should be exhibited by a deacon. The life of a deacon should also align with the qualifications set forth by 1 Timothy 3:8-12.

Qualifications of a Deacon:

- Dignified
- Not double-tongued
- Not addicted to much wine
- Not greedy for dishonest gain
- Sound in faith and life
- Blameless
- Godly wife
- Husband of one wife
- Manages children and household well
- A potential deacon should be called out and affirmed by the local church body. Prior to accepting this role within the church, a deacon should demonstrate a knowledge of scripture, express an awareness of one's spiritual gifts, and personally sense the direction of God to this task.

Responsibilities:

- General Responsibilities
 - Pray for the individuals within the local body
 - Spend time reading and reflecting on the Word of God
 - Participate in leadership meetings
 - Facilitate care group ministry
 - Support and assist the work of the elders
- Benevolence and Spiritual Care
 - Discern eligible recipients for the wise distribution of the church's available resources
 - Organize meal drives for church members in need (excluding bereavement). Coordinate with care group leaders to accomplish this.
 - Specifically heed the needs of the poor, widowed, and orphaned.
 - Visit those in need (physical, spiritual, and emotional)
 - Prepare, as needed, the ordinances of the church.

Lighthouse Missions Committee

1. Our Mission and Purpose

- To support financially and spiritually through prayer the missionaries sent out from our church.
- To support local, domestic, and foreign missions.

2. Committee Makeup and Terms

- Shall be composed of seven church members in good standing, approved through the nomination process. The Missions Pastor will serve as a permanent member.
- Shall select its own chairman and secretary
- Committee members shall serve three years with the option to be reappointed and serve two consecutive terms. If a person serves two consecutive terms, a year sabbatical is required.

3. Purpose and Duties

- To recommend and implement mission policy to the church/elders
- To recommend, research, and approve distribution of funds
- To inform the church/elders of mission matters
- To annually contact the missionary/agency to receive an annual report
- To evaluate the effectiveness of our missions program

4. Authority

- The mission committee shall be an extension of the church and have due authority given by the church/elders.

5. Practice

- The mission committee shall normally meet:
 - Every month
 - With all missionaries who are on furlough
 - With every missionary being considered for support

6. Committee Member Responsibilities

- Chairman: to plan and chair monthly meetings
- Secretary: to record minutes for each meeting
- A board member shall attend the monthly elder meetings.

7. Monthly Distribution Guidelines

- a. Monthly support distribution will be to an established organization.
- b. Money requests for an individual or group requires a mission expenditure form, filled out and approved (or an appearance before the mission committee).
- c. It is recognized that some situations will not meet above guidelines; unanimous board approval is required in such cases.
- d. We believe in total unity in board decisions. All board members need to be in full agreement with monetary distributions.
- e. Committed support should be 50% of the total monthly giving.

Lighthouse Food Committee

Vision:

- The Food Committee provides food to help Lighthouse walk in the vision God has established for His church; for all people to know Jesus, know Him more, and make Him known.

Leadership Selection:

- This committee will be made up of 3 ladies, voted on by the congregation. Members will serve 3 year terms. Two consecutive terms are allowed after which time a member's service ends with at least a year sabbatical.

Responsibilities:

- Bereavement within the church.
 - Contact the family to coordinate all meals for funeral service
 - Coordinate meal drive for the family following the service.
- Bereavement in local churches.
 - Support local churches by organizing and providing food to meet the needs of the family.

Lighthouse Youth Leadership

The purpose of an organized youth group at Lighthouse Ministries, is to disciple the young people of the church so that they grow in their knowledge and understanding of Christ while developing a personal relationship with Him. Additionally, youth activities should promote positive community and relationships among the youth of the church, while encouraging them to follow the commission of Christ to make Him known.

Responsibilities:

- Be available and willing to disciple youth through personal and spiritual issues.
- Coordinate with the pastoral team to ensure a focus on spiritual transformation that aligns with God's vision for Lighthouse.
- Guide youth to possess and maintain a Biblical worldview.
- Coordinate and organize special events and weekly activities.
- Identify spiritual giftings of students, and create opportunities for them to grow in those giftings.
- Encourage growth of the youth into future leaders. Youth Leaders should limit active leadership roles at youth events. Student leaders should be given the lead as much as possible.
- Oversee cleaning of the church to ensure all members of the youth are engaging and that the cleaning is being performed correctly.

Youth Leadership Operations:

- Youth age: 15 and +
- Leaders will meet every 2 months to discuss the status of the youth group and to make plans for the upcoming weeks.
- After monthly meetings, all plans, policies for events/fundraising, and any other information decided upon by the youth leaders should be presented in writing to the administrative assistant through email to avoid confusion, double booking of events and miscommunication.
- All trips or events requiring money brought about by fundraising must be presented to the youth students and to the youth parents to be voted on before plans are finalized.
- Designate a treasurer to handle youth funds.
- Elder Meetings should be attended by at least one youth leadership member to give a report of the youth group and take feedback from the elders. Attendance by a student leader is also encouraged.
- All parties should support each other equally, sharing the load of hosting, planning, and attending youth events.
- Youth leaders will be responsible for attending the planned youth event at least once per month. Additionally, every youth event/activity should be attended by at

least one youth leader (there are exceptions, but youth leaders should place high importance in ensuring proper oversight of youth activities).

Youth Leadership Structure:

- Youth Leadership will consist of a minimum of 6 People (3 men, 3 women). While typical, marriage is not a requirement to serve as a Youth Leader.
- Terms: Once voted into leadership, leaders will serve 3-year terms. A maximum of two consecutive terms can be served prior to a one-year minimum break.
- Youth leaders will be nominated by the church/nominating committee.
- The nominating team will consult with nominees to ensure that they are willing and qualified.
- The church will affirm nominees during the normally scheduled leadership selection time.

Student Leadership Roles & Requirements:

- Being a student leader of the group should be a privilege and an honor.
- Student leaders will be appointed by the Youth Leadership Team at their discretion. This may include a nomination and voting process that includes all students.
- Terms of student leaders are 1 year.
- Student leaders will help be the voice for the youth in planning activities and in choosing relevant topics for Bible studies and discussions.
- Student leaders will be primarily responsible for effective communication between the leadership team and the youth group (leadership should help teach student leaders healthy, effective communication).
- Student leaders should continually strive to be leaders of good Biblical character.
- Student leaders must be willing to lead youth activities.
- Student leaders should coordinate and verify the cleaning of the church according to the cleaning expectations.

Kid's Ministry Leadership Team

Vision: maintain constant evaluation and development of all programs for effectiveness and maximum impact.

Purpose: oversee the practical functions of the children's ministry at Lighthouse Ministries of Abbeville. This team will function under the authority of the Lighthouse Board of Elders. The vision and purpose of the children's ministry will be determined by the joint leadership of the Children's ministry team, the Lighthouse Board of Elders, and the support of the church body.

General Overview

- This team will consist of 4 couples and additional singles, appointed by the church through the nomination process.
 - The team should include a member with a minimum of 10 years of experience at Lighthouse Ministries.
- This team will function primarily by appointing and directing the leaders of the various departments of the Children's ministry.
 - They will be available to help leaders through any challenges or questions they would have as well as providing feedback and direction on any changes that need to be made within the ministry.
 - This team is expected to oversee the responsibilities listed below by delegating the various tasks to the body.
- A representative will be present at elder board meetings and provide feedback as needed.

Selection Process and Term Limits

- Children's Ministry Team Leaders will be nominated by the church body.
- The nominating team will consult with nominees to ensure that they are willing and qualified.
- This committee will be selected in the yearly ministry selection process.
- Terms: Once voted into leadership, leaders will serve 3-year terms. A maximum of two consecutive terms can be served prior to a one-year minimum break.

Scope of Responsibilities

- Oversight of Kid's Ministry operations
- Organize the volunteer staff
- Communicate with the Church Body
 - Ministry goals and needs.
 - Decision making process.

- Maintain and Manage the Buses and oversee appointed person to manage buses.
 - Any future bus purchases will be made only with direction from the Elder Board.
- Organize and plan Backyard Bible School
- Set and Amend Policy
- Ensure that special events are planned
- Set the yearly schedule
- Work within the given budget and oversee expenditures
- Provide input into future budgeting

Current Departments

- Stage Team/Sidewalk Truck
- Staffing
- Snack
- Policy/Compliance
- Buses/Routes
- Visitation
- Special Events
- Backyard Bible School
- Community Advocates (staff onsite in the communities throughout the week)

Fellowship Committee

Purpose: The Fellowship Committee provides activities and gatherings for people to informally interact outside of the typical activities of the church. These activities, intended for all people, are planned to lead to deeper relationships and connectedness with the congregation.

Membership: Members of this committee will be made up of 8 people, 3 couples and 2 singles (subject to change as needs arise). Members will serve three year terms. Two consecutive terms are allowed after which time a member's service ends. Regular involvement from all members is expected.

Responsibilities: The Fellowship Committee is responsible for promoting community and organizing social events to strengthen relationships among the congregation. This involves the following tasks:

- Plan for 6 fellowship events/year.
- Generate ideas for activities through brainstorming of ideas for appealing activities and events.
- Set dates for events which correspond and coordinate with other church and community activities.
- Promote the events to the church body during regular worship service announcements and church-wide email correspondence.
- Plan food for any special event outside of the planned fellowship events.
- Organize any contributions of church members, such as food or equipment needed for the events.
- Foster inclusivity to ensure all members feel welcomed and included in church activities.
- Set up tables and chairs as needed for events, solicit help from others if appropriate.
- Serve as hosts during events, providing oversight and guidance.
- Clean up following events bringing the space back to the way in which it was found.
- Work within the allocated budget as established by the Elders.
- Communicate and delegate ways for the body to help facilitate events.

Meetings: A chairperson or chaircouple should be determined by the committee prior to their first meeting of the calendar year. The role of the chairperson is to call the committee together for meetings to plan and address the tasks as outlined above. The regularity of the meetings is to be determined by the committee to provide for optimal communications and engagement within the committee.

Collaboration with Other Committees and staff: It is the role of the chair to communicate with other committees and staff as needed.

- Elders: The committee chairperson should meet with the Elders at the start of the new year to hear the heart of the church, to gain guidance for event planning taking into consideration themes being promoted by the church, learn of planned church-wide events, obtain the approved budget amount for the year. Notify elders of plans to attend, so designated time can be allotted during the leadership meeting.
- Pastors and Church Secretary: Promotions of events should be conveyed to pastors for sharing during announcements at worship as well as to the church secretary for inclusion in the weekly email sent to the congregation.
- All other Committees: Dates for events should be coordinated with all other committees so as not to be disruptive to church activities.

Next Gen Youth

Vision: to foster community and discipleship

1 Timothy 4:12

“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity.”

-Middle School is a tough age where you have a lot of changes going on and you are trying to figure out who you are. Our hope is that those that attend Next Gen would be affirmed in who they are in Christ, that they would grow in faith and have a love for His Word. That they would courageously follow God’s purpose for their lives through loving others and leading them into a relationship with the God they love and serve.

-This is a bridge to connect younger youth with the youth group.

-Age range: 9-14

Responsibilities:

-Meet the last Sunday of every month. As much as possible, try to have another activity during the month, a movie, a concert, a worship night, etc.

-Leaders meet about once every quarter to pray and plan the next several months of meetings/activities.

-Maintain a WhatsApp Group with the parents where upcoming details for meetings and other necessary things are communicated.