



Deacon Ministry Deacon Emeritus

Give a bonus to leaders who do a good job, especially the ones who work hard at preaching and teaching. 1 Timothy 5:17 (MSG)

Leadership and Life
Development

Florida Baptist
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What happens to honored and faithful servants whose time comes to retire from the Deacon Council? Churches should have a way to honor those who have faithfully served in the office of deacon. They may give those deacons the title of “Deacon Emeritus.” These deacons retain the respect and honor of the office, but they don’t have the problems or responsibilities of the office. They may attend all Deacon activities at their own discretion or that of the Church.

Deacon Emeritus status shall be open and available to any current member of the Church who has actively served on the Deacon Council. Deacon Emeritus status is totally voluntary. Any Deacon, who by reason of age, health, personal or otherwise wishes to not continue to serve as an active deacon may, by his written request to the Deacon Council be moved to the Emeritus status. It shall be the responsibility of the deacon meeting these criteria to request this status. The Council may grant this request by recommending to the Church that this be done. Deacon Emeritus status shall continue for the lifetime of the requesting member, unless his condition or desire changes at a later time and he wishes to become active again, he may make his request known to the Deacon Council, asking that his status be changed. He then would be eligible for selection by the Church to serve as an active Deacon at the next regular Deacon selection.

The Deacons and the entire Church Family will honor these individuals by giving them the title “Deacon Emeritus”. The designation of “Deacon Emeritus” is a conferred title. It is intended to recognize long and distinguished service through the Church in the capacity of Deacon as well as service to the church through a number of other responsibilities and positions of service.

After approval by the church, the recognition and title conferral process will proceed. This process shall be done sufficiently and appropriate in a special recognition service each year.

The recognition should include a special listing in the appropriate church publications and in the church bulletin. During the recognition service, a citation of achievement may be made and a special certificate or plaque will be presented.

Please contact the **Leadership and Life Development Department**
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