

#1.3

DEACONS

PURPOSE: To establish the ministry of Deacon at Chapel by the Sea.

PROCEDURE:

1. Deacons are nominated, elected, ordained and installed in the same manner as Ruling Elders.
2. There shall be from 3 to 9 Deacons divided into three classes as nearly equal in number as possible, one class to be elected each year at the designated congregational meeting for a three-year term. No deacon shall serve for consecutive terms, either full or partial, aggregating more than 6 years, and shall be ineligible to serve for a new term until one year shall have elapsed.
3. A Deacon's ministry is one of compassion and service, with duties and activities based upon the Deacon's particular gifts and the needs of the church.
4. Deacons may be either individually commissioned or organized into a Board of Deacons, which then serves as an advisory body to the Session. In either case, their ministry is under the supervision and authority of the Session.
5. If organized into a Board of Deacons, meetings may be called, noticed and conducted in the manner prescribed for the Session, and a moderator and secretary shall be elected from its membership.
6. The initial class of deacons to be installed in 2017 shall have staggered terms (so that all do not end in 3 years) to be determined by the nominating committee.