

THE COMMITTEE ON DIACONAL MINISTRIES
OF THE ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Proposed Mandate
for the Work of the Presbytery Diaconal Committee (PDC)**

1. Regarding Local Congregations

- a. Stand ready to assist local diaconates with matters that exceed their local resources.
- b. Stand ready to assist congregations and mission works that have no local deacons.
- c. Promote, encourage and coordinate diaconal work within the Presbytery.
- d. Communicate and promote diaconal ministry opportunities within the Presbytery.
- e. Educate and encourage the Presbytery to carry out diaconal responsibilities in response to various needs.

2. Regarding the CDM

- a. Promote the work of the CDM within the Presbytery.
- b. Serves as the Presbytery's liaison between the CDM and the churches of the Presbytery in evaluating local requests for aid that the Presbytery is unable to provide for, and referring these to the CDM.

3. Regarding Disaster Relief

- a. Promote the work of disaster relief among the churches of the Presbytery, in coordination with the CDM, other OPC presbyteries, and the broader church in general.

4. Regarding Ministers

- a. Inquire and act to ensure that every retired minister of the Presbytery, and every minister's widow and his dependent family, have adequate resources to meet their normal needs.
- b. Seek to discover cases of pastors in need, and provide aid as circumstances warrant.

5. Regarding Anticipating Needs

- a. Assess needs by conducting surveys of the financial needs of the churches of the Presbytery.
- b. Bring to the Presbytery's attention the work of other Christian relief agencies.

6. Regarding Diaconal Funds

- a. Raise funds from the churches of the Presbytery to meet particular needs that come to the attention of the PDC.
- b. Recommend an annual per capita amount that each church of the Presbytery should contribute to the PDC.
- c. Requests funds from the CDM as needed.

7. Regarding Deacons of the Presbytery

- a. Maintain a roll of active deacons of the Presbytery, and make it available to the Presbytery and the CDM.
- b. Promote communication between the local deacon boards.