

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.