



WELCOME VISITORS! Thank you for joining us today to worship the Lord. If this is your first visit here, please honor us by filling out a visitor's card found on the back of each pew. Your prayer requests may also be made on the flip side of the card. At the close of service, please put your card in the contribution box at the front of the auditorium as you exit. Or you can hand it to any member.

During the service we will celebrate communion. (Sacraments are available on the table in the entry foyer.) This is a time that we partake of unleavened bread and juice from the fruit of the vine to remind us what Jesus has done for us. Communion is not only about Jesus' death, but his resurrection and triumph over death and sin. His resurrection is the source of our hope that God will fulfill his promise of eternal life through Jesus the Christ.

Address:	5728 White Settlement Road Westworth Village, TX 76114
Office Phone:	817-738-7536
Worship Services:	Sunday 10:00 am
Bible Study:	Wednesday 7:00 pm
Men's Group:	2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7:00 pm
Website:	www.westworthcoc.org
Email:	Westworthchurch@sbcglobal.net
Facebook Group:	Westworth Church of Christ
Trustees:	Curtis Dunson, Brian Flaherty, Eric Kreger, Curtis Thompson

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

TODAY—"3rd" Sunday Lunch

Hope you will stay for the fellowship lunch following services this morning. Plenty of good food and everyone is welcomed.

June 29 — Wednesday Night Bible Study.

After a one week 'pause' the Wednesday Night Bible study will begin a study of 1 Peter. Bill Jones will facilitate this study.

Join us, won't you?

June 28 — P-O-S-T-P-O-N-E-D



*Next scheduled Men's Group will be:
July 12, 2022*

The Men's group meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month.

TIME: 7:00-8:00 pm

CURRENT TOPIC: The Holy Spirit

July 16 (Saturday)—Old Fashioned Ice Cream Supper

Let's get together for some fellowship and



ICE CREAM

Here in the activity building - 5:30 pm. Everyone break out those wonderful home-made ice cream recipes and let's enjoy an evening of fellowship. Bring ice cream, toppings, deserts, watermelon—anything cool and refreshing. YUM!



Invite your friends, family, neighbors... let's get to know them and make them welcomed. There will be games available for those who want to add to the fun.

MILESTONES



June Birthdays

Max Parker	2-Jun	Ruston Kirby	24-Jun
Jim Allen	9-Jun	Janice Stanfield	26-Jun
Wayne Kreger	12-Jun	Doug Robertson	27-Jun
Donna Simco	13-Jun	Sherri Dunson	28-Jun
Dean Corder	22-Jun		

June Anniversaries

Curtis & Sherri Dunson	4-Jun
John & Samantha Jewell	8-Jun
Tony & Carla Kerske	10-Jun
Tom & Wanda Reynolds	12-Jun
Marty & Blair Montgomery	17-Jun



THE PULPIT IN JULY

Bob Mullen will speak for us each Sunday in July. His lesson series

Navigating New Normals

Is scheduled as listed below:

- July 3—*Finding Joyful Living*
- July 10—*Navigating Our Sadness*
- July 17—*Navigating our Fears*
- July 24—*Navigating our Anger*
- July 32—*Navigating our Happiness*



Invite your friends and family to hear this series with relevant topics that affect us all.



July 17 will be 3rd Sunday Lunch (might even be some left-over ice cream).

WHAT DEACONS ARE AND DO

PART 1

Several months ago I ran across some articles written by Jim Dalrymple in the magazine Christian Standard. Dalrymple is a professor of New Testament and Leadership with Ozark Christian College, in Joplin, Missouri. The articles compare our modern perception of what deacons are and do with what is recorded in the Scripture. Having served as a deacon, an elder, and minister for thirty years I found the articles to be both challenging and informative. The articles gave me a new understanding of my long-accepted idea on what deacons are, and what they do. My purpose for presenting these articles is to cause us to reflect on our future as a God's representative in the community. I have not included the third article which deals with the subject of Deaconesses which introduced in Romans 16:1. If there is enough interest I can see that copies of the third article are made available.

David Keller

Where have all the deacons gone? Has this biblical role become obsolete in our modern world?

Not long ago, when hosting a seminar on the topic, an elder approached me and declared facetiously, "We don't have deacons . . . who still does?" I knew what he meant. To him, the term *deacon* was a signpost of an outdated model of ministry. When I said "deacon," he thought *committee*. What I wanted to say (but didn't) was that they did in fact have deacons—they just called them something like "ministers" or "ministry team leaders." I have found many are curious and confused about the role of deacons in the church. In this three-part conversation, I hope to reexamine the biblical material regarding deacons and reimagine their role in the church today.

DEACONS SERVE

In the ancient world, a deacon (from the Greek word *diakonos*) was simply someone who served. The title would have instantly communicated a function, much like *waiter*, *mechanic*, or *carpenter* do to-

day. Deacons were common and in ancient society their role was clear: deacons served. They served in households, temples, governments, and the church. Their work varied, but their function was the same. Unfortunately, the word *deacon* does not carry the same clarity today. Why is this?

We have chosen to **transliterate** the Greek word (*diakonos*) rather than translate it. Ask anyone today what a deacon does, and the lack of clarity will prove my point. What are our options for translation?

1. **Deacons**—a transliteration of the Greek word *diakonos*
2. **Minister**—a transliteration of the Latin word *ministerium* (yes, we even transliterate a translation!)
3. **Servant**—an English translation

The key thing to notice from these three options is that we use all three! Not only that, but we associate a unique role with each synonymous term. I know churches who have *ministers* on staff, *deacons* on their board, and *servant leaders* over various ministries. No wonder we're confused! What does this look like in your church? Here are three models I have observed:

1. Deacons as board members. In this model, deacons function primarily as a governing body—a role like that of the elders. In addition, they often are given shared leadership over the same tasks such as serving Communion, overseeing building maintenance, etc.

2. Deacons as volunteer ministry leaders (or servant leaders). In this model, deacons are primarily a need-meeting body rather than a governing body (distinct from the elders/overseers). Unlike the model above, in this model each deacon is appointed to a unique area of responsibility and thereby is leveraged to meet a diversity of needs in the church. Often, those who serve in this model are called *ministry team leaders* or *servant leaders* rather than deacons.

3. Deacons as paid ministry staff (ministers). This model functions like the above but those serving are primarily in paid staff positions, plus they often are called *minister* rather than *deacon*.

Which model is the biblical one? Part of the genius of the Bible is that this role is adaptable to various contexts and cultures. But let me come back to the issue of transliteration. My concern is that, in transliterating, we

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have stripped the original term of its clear referential meaning. I'll show you what I mean.

WE CALL BIBLE THINGS BY BIBLE NAMES

We want to call Bible things by Bible names, but sometimes we settle for calling worldly things by Bible names. Sure, we use biblical labels like *deacon*, but we merely slap these labels over a preferred secular model. An honest evaluation often reveals underlying templates from the American political system, corporate boardroom, or the 21st-century social club. Want evidence?

1. Do you nominate and vote deacons into an office or appoint them to a specific ministry need?
2. Do your deacons serve until their term is over or until their task is completed?
3. Do your deacons spend more time in meetings or in meeting needs?
4. Are your deacons known more for their titles than their service?

We have re-created deacons in our cultural image. We have flipped what was meant to be an embodiment of Jesus' servant ministry and made it an embodiment of our own power structures. Let me be clear. To be a deacon is not to have an honorific title but to have a humble task. Deacons are not appointed to meet in committees but to meet needs in the community. Deacons lead the way in Christlike service. It is time for deacons to trade their ballots and boardrooms for the basin and towel.

Jim Dalrymple serves as executive vice president of advancement and professor of New Testament and leadership with Ozark Christian College, Joplin, Mo.

Next week—part 2 (“Who to Select and How They Should Function”)

NEWS TIDBITS

New addresses:

Amanda Moore
3921 Lakewood Dr.
Fort Worth, TX 76135

Dennis McMillion
5571 Zane Ct.
Fort Worth, TX 76137

New publications received this week:

- **The Search Light**—most current information about the work of the Edmund Church of Christ (Oklahoma)
- **Basic Christianity**—Title: *The Christian and Social Media*
- **Namikango Mission report**—the latest on this long standing mission work
- **Home Mission Report**—a report on the results of the efforts from this group to help with struggling congregations, establish new congregations, and provide ministry training

Kids coloring pages: (if/when needed)

In the south foyer, (in a basket, on the floor, under the coat hooks) you will find kids coloring pages with crayons. After services, just leave them on the pew and they will be refreshed each week.

Jonah Jewell's address

If you have recently sent mail to Jonah Jewell and had it returned, I am told the issue has been resolved, and he should receive any mail sent to him now.

Always remember our young people who are serving. Certainly in your prayers, but also with a personal note from time to time.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Date	Today—June 26
Open	Eric Kreger
Usher	Bill Jones
Songs/Close	Christian Lindsey
Communion	David Keller
Prayer	Sharold Ferris
Kids Church	Tracy Robertson Sherri Dunson
Reading	Robby Robertson
Lesson/Sermon	Max Lisle
A/V	Christi Kreger

COMING WEEKS

Date	July 3	July 10	July 17
Open	Curtis Thompson	Brian Flaherty	Robby Robertson
Usher	Eric Kreger	Curtis Thompson	Brian Flaherty
Songs/Close	Curtis Dunson	Eric Kreger	Samuel Flaherty
Communion	Johnny Box	Bill Jones	David Keller
Prayer	Ernie Brawley	Mike Lisle	Johnny Box
Kids Church	Susan Flaherty Sherry Jones	Blair Montgomery Sarah Thompson	David & Hettie Keller
Reading	Marty Montgomery	John Snell	James Kreger
Lesson	Bob Mullen	Bob Mullen	Bob Mullen
A/V	Christi Kreger	Christi Kreger	Susan Flaherty

Communion Preparation June: Janice Stanfield