

A Request for Permission to Be Served By a Layman Serving as a Deacon

Having considered our present situation carefully, with the assistance of our Circuit Counselor and others, and having asked for the guidance and direction of our gracious God, we have come to the conclusion that at this time, the best way to provide for pastoral service in our congregation is to obtain the services of a certified church worker, lay, or lay worker, to serve us as a deacon

Therefore, we formally request permission of the District President to obtain the services of _____ to serve our spiritual needs under the

Name of Deacon

Supervision of an ordained LCMS pastor in accordance with the established District and Synodical policies and guidelines.

We also understand and agree that the ultimate spiritual oversight (episcopacy) of our congregation shall be assumed by the ordained supervising pastor approved by the District President.

We further understand and agree that this permission, when granted by the District President, expires and must be renewed by December 31st of each year.

Finally, when this permission is granted and the services of a deacon have been obtained, we agree and pledge ourselves faithfully and cheerfully during the time we are being served by the deacon to follow and carry out the provisions of:

1. A Policy Concerning the Use of Deacons;
2. Guidelines for the Pastor Supervising the Work of a Deacon;
3. Guidelines for Congregations Regarding the Performance of Pastoral Functions When No Ordained Pastor is Available.

Congregation: _____

Location: _____

Signatures for the congregation:

President	Date	Secretary	Date
Circuit Counselor	Date	Deacon	Date

Supervising Pastor: _____
Date _____

**Mail form to:
Pacific Southwest District
Attention: Kelly DeJongh
1540 Concordia Dr. East
Irvine, CA 92612-3203**

_____ Permission granted

_____ Permission denied

District President _____

Date _____