

OPC National Diaconal Summit III

June 15-17, 2017

Wheaton, Illinois

Proposed OPC PDC Mandate

1. The committee's work:

a. Regarding Local Congregations

- i. Stands ready to **assist local diaconates** with matters that exceed their local resources.
- ii. Stands ready to **assist** congregations and mission works **without local deacons**.
- iii. Promotes, encourages and coordinates **diaconal work** within the presbytery.
- iv. Communicates and promotes **diaconal ministry opportunities** within the presbytery.
- v. **Educates** and encourages the presbytery to carry out diaconal responsibilities in response to various needs.

b. Regarding the CDM

- i. Promotes the **work of the CDM** within the presbytery.
- ii. Serves as Presbytery's **liaison** between the CDM and the churches of Presbytery in evaluating local requests for aid which the Presbytery is unable to provide for, and referring these to the CDM.

c. Regarding Disaster Relief

- i. Promotes the work of **disaster relief** among the churches of our presbytery, in coordination with the CDM, other OPC presbyteries, and the broader church in general.

d. Regarding Ministers

- i. Inquires and acts to ensure that every **retired minister** of the Presbytery, every minister's widow and his dependent family have adequate resources to meet their normal needs.
- ii. Seeks to discover cases of **pastors in need** and gives them aid as they are able, if they judge that circumstances warrant such aid.

e. Regarding Anticipating Needs

- i. Assesses needs by **conducting a survey** of the financial needs of the churches in Presbytery.
- ii. Brings to the presbytery's attention the work of other **Christian relief agencies**.

f. Regarding Diaconal Funds

- i. **Raises funds** from the churches of Presbytery to meet particular needs that come to their attention.
- ii. **Recommends** an annual per capita amount.
- iii. Requests funds from the CDM.

g. Regarding Deacons of the Presbytery

- i. Keeps a **roll of active deacons** of Presbytery and makes such a roll available to Presbytery.
- ii. **Promotes contact between** the local deacon boards.