

DETROIT ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2008 DEACON LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENT FORM
(Please return to the district office at least 10 days prior to the church conference)

Church/Charge _____ Pastor _____

Staff Parish Relations Committee Chairperson:

Please make sufficient copies of this form for each member of your committee, supervisory pastor(s), and Deacon. If you have more than one appointed Deacon, please fill out separate forms for each Deacon. This assessment is to be completed by the members of the SPRC, the supervisory pastor(s), and Deacon only. You are invited to reflect on the ministry of the church as well as the ministry of the Deacon. The assessment is intended to enhance the quality of ministry of the church, ministry setting and Deacon. (If a Deacon's primary appointment is not in the local church, not in an agency or institution, they are to establish a Ministry Advisory Team (MAT). Yearly, each member is to receive and complete this form prior to the SPRC meeting to evaluate their Deacon's Ministry. The MAT chair is to be notified of the SPRC meeting and time, and to attend the SPRC meeting representing the MAT viewpoints.) Each SPRC member, supervisory pastor and Deacon should complete the form and bring it to a regularly scheduled meeting of the SPRC. At that meeting the Deacon should be present and dialogue will take place regarding the responses. Upon completion of the dialogue, one assessment for each Deacon needs to be completed representing the discussion and opinions of the SPRC members, pastor, Ministry Advisory Team and Deacon.

QUESTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE AND COMMITTEE DIALOGUE

1. What are the Deacon's strengths? *The ministry of a Deacon is described in ¶328/329 of The Book of Discipline 2004. Deacons commit to a lifetime ministry of Word and service to both community and congregation in ministry that connects the two. A Deacon will not excel in all areas, nor should the congregation expect of the Deacon proficiency in all areas. It is the responsibility of the SPRC, Supervisory Pastor, Ministry Advisory Team, if any, and the Deacon to determine what mission, ministry, and spiritual gifts/talents and skills are necessary.*

2. How are the Deacon's gifts being utilized in the: congregation, community, district, and conference?

3. Where does the Deacon need to improve and/ or what additional training does he/she need in order to be in servant leadership in his/her specialized ministry within the congregation/the community in accomplishing the stated mission?

4. What vision, program, or plan has the Deacon led or inspired in the congregation and/or the community in the last year?

5. What challenges occurred in life of the : congregation, community, Deacon's ministry in the past year and has the Deacon addressed them successfully? Give brief description. What was the involvement of the SPRC/MAT/Supervisory Pastor?

6. How well does your Deacon listen to, understand, and relate to the variety of God's people in your church and community?

7. Describe your Deacon's enthusiasm and energy level for ministry with your congregation/ ministry setting/community.

8. Additional comments.

There may be issues of concern the Deacons, pastors, congregations, Ministry Advisory Team members must work through. The bishop and district superintendents expect all will use "The Rule of Christ" (Matthew 18) to directly and honestly, with mutual accountability, address issues of concern. If resolution is not possible after following this method, the chairperson, Supervisory pastor, MAT Chair and/or Deacon are encouraged to contact the district superintendent.

Deacon's signature_____

Date_____

SPRC chair's signature_____

Date_____