The Conference Deacon Covenanted Ministry is now in its fifth year and will undergo revisions based on feedback from the churches, deacons, and the Vision Team report.

Purpose:

The Missouri Mid-South Conference Deacon program is fundamental to the development of a system that is based on relationships between congregations and individuals (rather than relationships solely between Conference staff and congregations/individuals). The Conference Deacons are not “staff”, but are lay and clergy leaders (some younger, some older) chosen to serve because of their spiritual, emotional and ecclesial maturity and who will serve as the “connectors” within the body. Conference Deacons’ authority is more informal (that is, they have no “constitutional power” but become effective as they develop trust and express care and concerns for those of the body).

Happenings this past year:

- Our small cadre of deacons visited churches assigned to them at least once and many churches were visited twice this year.
- Attended dinners and special events

As our Vision Team Report stated last June, it is essential to re-develop the Conference Deacon Program and continue to develop a system that is based on relationships between congregations and individuals rather than relationships merely between staff and congregations/individuals.

Betsy Reznicek (Conference Council Member) has agreed to be the coordinator of the Deacon Program. Betsy and members of the Leadership Development Standing Committee will be hosting a workshop at CAG. We hope you will attend to share the needs of your congregations and also consider the possibility of becoming a part of the Deacon Team.

Joyce Bathke