

IX. Board of Deacons or Elder-Deacons 执事会或长执会

Power and duties 权力和义务

The office of the deacon is described in I Timothy 3: 8–13 and Acts 6:1–7. The qualifications for deacons are the same as those for elders (see below or Appendix II); deacons assist pastor(s) and elder(s) in managing specific church affairs. By following the confirmation procedure, the church shall recognize members who are giving themselves in service to the church according to their respective gifts of service. The Board of Elders-Deacons/the Board of Deacons is responsible for the discipline, general management, operations, activities, and affairs of Auburn Grace Chinese Christian Church. Deacons serve three-year terms. Upon recommendation by the Board and confirmation at a members' meeting or a special members' meeting, they may be re-elected for another term. In principle, one must take a one-year off before being re-nominated after one or two terms. All deacons of this church shall not be in the church's regular pay. A deacon may be female.

执事的职分资格参见提摩太前书 3:8-13 和使徒行传 6:1-7。执事的遴选资格与长老资格要求相同（见下文或附件二），执事协助牧师和长老管理教会具体事务。教会应选出愿意将自己奉献给教会服事、并且具有特殊服事恩赐的成员作为执事。长执会/执事会负责奥本恩典华人基督教会的纪律，一般管理，运营，各项活动，和事务。执事的任期为三年一任。经长执会/执事会荐举，并于成员会议或是特别成员会议确认后可连任一期。卸任后原则上休息一年才能再度被提名。本教会所有的执事均不受薪。姊妹亦可担任执事。

The major tasks and responsibilities of the Board of Elder-Deacons/Deacons include but are not limited to:

- Electing a chair and a vice chair of the Board.
- Conducting deacons' meetings on a regular basis and keeping meeting minutes.
- Caring for the needs of members.
- Attending to the accommodations for church operations.
- Maintaining and managing church properties.
- Encouraging and supporting those with various gifts, including helping others and administration.
- Receiving, holding, and disbursing a fund for benevolence as well as reporting on its use to the elders at their request.
- Reporting to the church its total receipts and total disbursements.
- Establishing, with the agreement of the elders, unpaid administrative positions, standing or ad-hoc committees of members (i.e., mission, personnel, building management committees) to assist in fulfilling the deacon's responsibilities when needed.
- Examining and selecting leaders for ministries related to the deacon ministry (i.e., administration, church property, facility maintenance, and the like.)
- Working with the elders to examine and select a treasurer (accountant) and cashier.
- Proposing funding for paid positions (existing and new) to the members.
- Consulting with the ministry leaders to develop a draft church budget for next year and a draft amendment of an existing budget as needed, followed by proposing the draft to the elders for

approval. Upon the Board's approval, the draft is sent to church members for review at least two weeks before a scheduled member meeting.

长执会/执事会应承担任务和职责包括但不限于：

- 选立一位执事作为长执会/执事会的主席和副主席。
- 定期召开执事会议，并保存会议记录。
- 照顾成员的需要。
- 致力于教会常规运作的后勤事务。
- 负责教产的维护与管理。
- 鼓励并支持那些有能力帮助他人和有管理恩赐的成员参与服事。
- 负责接收、保管和支付善款。
- 向教会汇报收支情况。
- 可设立不受薪的管理岗位或常设或特设委员会(例如宣教委员会、人事委员会、教堂管理委员会)来协助他们履行在教会的职责。
- 查验和选立与执事事工相关的事工负责人。
- 查验和选立教会的会计和出纳。
- 向教会建议受薪人员的薪资。
- 咨询事工负责人的意见，提交下一年度的教会预算草案以及在需要时提交本年度的预算调整草案。在长执会/执事会审核通过后，于成员会议两周前发给教会成员，并且与成员充分沟通草案内容。

Composition and operation of the Board of Elder-Deacons/Deacons 长执会/执事会的组成和运作

The Board of Deacons consists of five to seven deacons, and the Board of Elder-Deacons includes pastor(s) and elder(s)

执事会由三到七名执事组成，长执会包括牧师，长老和执事。

The Board of Elder-Deacons/Deacons elects one brother Deacon as the Chairman of the Board and another brother deacon as the Vice-Chairman of the Board. Neither the pastor nor an elder may serve as chair or vice chair of the Board.

长执会/执事会选立一位弟兄执事作为长执会/执事会的主席和另一位弟兄执事作为长执会/执事会的副主席。牧师和长老不担任长执会/执事会主席或副主席。

The chair of the Board works closely with other deacons on the operation of AUGCCC, coordinates the overall work of the Board, and the associate chair supports the chair in coordinating the work.

长执会/执事会主席应与其他执事就奥本恩典华人基督教会的运作密切合作，整体协调长执会/执事会工作，副主席支持协调长执会/执事会工作。

The chair or vice chair of the Board represents AUGCCC in working with other churches, working with the Church Advisory Council, coordinating church meetings, initiating church membership and discipline, and initiating updating bylaws.

长执会/执事会主席/副主席负责外联, 与教会顾问委员会协作, 协调教会会议, 教会成员加入和惩戒, 和章程更新等事工。

The chair of the Board holds the appointment for one year. The Board discusses and recommends the chair and vice chair (typically take a turn). When the one-year term of the Board chair is completed, the vice chair is automatically recommended and becomes the Board's chair. The outgoing chair will then serve as a deacon on the Board.

长执会/执事会主席任期一年。长执会/执事会讨论并推荐执事会主席和副主席。当长执会/执事会主席的一年任期结束时, 长执会/执事会自动推荐副主席成为执事会主席。离任的主席将担任普通的执事。

The Board of Elder-Deacons/Deacons does not usually vote on issues, although opinions from the deacons will be consulted and considered before major decisions are made. If differing opinions arise, humble discussions among the chair, vice chair, and the other deacons and heartfelt praying should be the primary way to resolve the differences. If differences persist after going through this process, the chairman and vice chairman of the Board should fully seek and respect the opinions of the pastor(s) and elder(s). They can and should seek the opinions of the church advisory council to make a final decision on the basis of consultation with all deacons. Then, the final decision will be taken by a majority opinion (three-quarters) of deacons. If a vote is needed to form a majority opinion on the decision, the pastor(s) or elder(s) will be included in the vote. Once a decision is made, all elders/deacons should serve in unity under God.

长执会/执事会通常不对问题进行投票, 但在做出重大决定之前会咨询和考虑各位执事们的意见。如果出现不同意见, 长执会/执事会主席、副主席和其他长老/执事之间的谦虚讨论和虔诚祷告应该是解决分歧的主要方式。如果经过此过程后分歧仍然存在, 长执会/执事会主席和副主席应该充分征求和尊重牧师和长老的意见, 以及征求教会顾问委员会的意见, 在与所有长老/执事协商的基础上, 长执会/执事会可对以事务性为主的问题进行投票。牧师, 长老, 执事可投票。以超过四分之三的投票为通过标准。一旦做出决定, 所有的长老/执事都应该在上帝之下团结一地工作。

Eligibility and qualification of deacons 执事的资格和基本要求

A deacon must be an AUGCCC member (Christian brother or sister), endorse the mission of AUGCCC, remain committed to the basic beliefs specified earlier in this document, place our Lord Jesus Christ and His body above himself, agree to abide by the terms and conditions of these bylaws, and have a good reputation in AUGCCC.

执事都必须是奥本恩典华人基督教会的成员(基督徒弟兄或姊妹), 支持本教会的使命, 并且忠诚于本文件前面指定的基本信仰, 将我们的主耶稣基督和祂的教会置于自己之上, 同意遵守这些章程的条款, 并在本教会有良好的名声。

Qualification of deacons 执事的基本要求:

1. **Spiritual conditions: good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom (Acts 6:3)** 属灵条件: 有好名声、被圣灵充满、智慧充足的本教会成员 (见徒 6:3)。
2. **He/she holds the mystery of faith with a clear conscience (1 Timothy 3:9)** 存清洁的良心, 固守真道的奥秘 (见提前 3:9)。
3. **He/she is dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, and not greedy for dishonest gain (1 Timothy 3:8)** 生活敬虔端庄, 不一口两舌, 不沉迷于喝酒, 不贪不义之财 (见提前 3:8)。
4. **He/she has a good family testimony: one spouse who is also a church member of AUGCCC; managing his/her own children and household well (1 Timothy 3:12; 2 Corinthians 6:14)** 有好家庭的见证: 只有一个配偶, 配偶也是本教会的成员; 好好管理儿女和自己的家 (见提前 3:12; 哥林多后书 6:14)。
5. **He/she has served at AUGCCC or ACBSG for at least one year or had been a co-worker, a deacon, a pastor, or a teacher for at least one year at another church: tested and proved blameless before serving as a deacon (1 Timothy 3:10, 5:22)** 在本教会或奥本中文查经班担任或曾担任过同工, 协助同工会/执事会的服事一年以上, 或在其他教会担任同工、执事、传道、教师一年以上: 要先受试验, 若没有可责之处, 然后叫他们作执事 (见提前 3:10; 提前 5:22)。
6. **His/her spouse is dignified, not a slanderer, but sober-minded, faithful in all things (1 Timothy 3:11)** 配偶必须端庄, 不说谰言, 有节制, 凡事忠心 (见提前 3:11)。

Selection of deacons 执事的遴选

The Board of Elder-Deacons/Deacons shall determine the service areas of deacons or a new deacon to meet the needs of the church.

长执会/执事会依教会需要设定新执事和其服事职分。

The Board shall announce the nomination procedures, the nomination deadline, the service area(s), and the qualification of a new deacon.

长执会/执事会向成员宣布推举新执事程序、其服事职分、被推举资格和推举截止日期。

A deacon nominee must receive the nomination from the Board or at least one-tenth of church members to become a deacon candidate. A deacon candidate may be a sister.

被提名人必须有长执会/执事会或者至少十分之一教会成员的提名, 方可成为执事候选人。执事候选人可以是姊妹。

After the Board examination, the Board shall propose and rank the qualified deacon candidates based on their church life and the pre-determined service areas for each new deacon position. Then, in the order of ranking, the Board shall approach each deacon candidate and his/her spouse for their willingness to serve as a deacon until one deacon candidate accepts the nomination for the position. Only one deacon candidate will go through the membership confirmation process for one deacon position.

经长执会/执事会审核后，长执会/执事会依候选人在教会里的肢体生活与服事确定合格的执事候选人的推举顺序，并依排定的顺序征求候选人和他们的配偶关于其担任执事的意愿。若顺序在先的人不愿意被推举，长执会/执事会将依顺序征求下一位候选人的意愿，直到有一位候选人愿意承担所推举的执事职分。每个执事位置只有一名执事候选人进入教会成员确认的流程。

If there is no appropriate candidate or no candidate accepts the nomination or the candidate is not confirmed by members for a new deacon position, that deacon position shall be vacant until the next election.

如果某一执事事工没有合适的候选人或所有候选人没有接受推举提名或候选人没有被确认，那项事工执事将从缺，直到下一次的执事推举。

According to the AUGCCC bylaws, a deacon candidate shall be commissioned to become a deacon after being confirmed by a two-thirds vote at a members' meeting or a special members' meeting.

依教会章程规定，执事候选人需要在成员会议或特别成员会议经至少三分之二的有效成员投票确认后，方可委任为执事。

Term and succession 任期和继任

A deacon is appointed for three years and can be reappointed for another term. In principle, it needs to take one year off after two terms.

执事任期三年，可以连任一次，两届后原则上停休一年。

Replacement 替换

If a deacon moves away, or if he/she cannot fulfill his/her duties, the Board of Elders-Deacons/Deacons shall initiate the election process of a new deacon to replace him/her for the church ministries using the same procedure as above to appoint a new deacon.

如果执事搬离奥本地区，或者因故无法履行职责，教会长执会/执事会有权启动更换过程，采用同上的程序，设立新的执事参与教会的服事。