

## NEW for 2022-2023

The Laity of our Congregations, and all other parties, are invited to audit any class offering. There is a \$100 fee. Registration forms are available on-line through the Atlantic District Website [www.ad-lcms.org] – Diaconate Portal, or from the Program Registrar, Rev Henry Albrechtsen [revalbrechtsen@optimum.com].

**Continuing Education** opportunities are expanding to include courses to run concurrently with the standard training program offerings. The new courses being developed include: “Crossways Bible Studies”; “Starting New Ministries”; “Studies of .the Gospel of Matthew.”

**Google Classroom** comes to the Atlantic District Lay Deacon Training Program. This trusted and widely used on-line teaching tool replaces the use of the ZOO platform. The new advantages include enhanced white board functions, chat box, split screen capabilities, and easier operation and navigation. Tutorials for Google Classroom will be available.

## Fellowship Opportunities

The Atlantic District Lay Diaconate is a community of individuals from congregation from throughout the Atlantic District adv. As such, members take advantage of several offerings for fellowship and learning, including:

- + Regional on-line Bible Study
  - + Monthly regional breakfast gatherings
  - + Annual regional seminars
  - + Annual weekend retreat

## The Lay Diaconate A Ministry of Word and Service

- + **Sharing the Gospel through Evangelism**
- + **Caring for others at home and in nursing homes**
- + **Teaching God’s Word**
- + **Leading Prayer and Praise**
- + **Serving the Church wherever needed**

## Come Be A Part of This Dynamic Ministry

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### Facts About Distance Learning

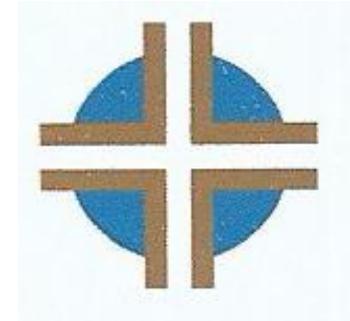
The Atlantic District Lay Deacon Training Program uses Google Classroom, an established on-line distance education group meeting system .

This form of distance education provides several features to enhance the learning process:

- + Multiple file uploads – the ability to receive course materials as well as submit work directly to the Instructors’ mailboxes
- + Virtual classroom tools, including live video feed from the instructors’ locale, white board for Instructors’ illustrations, microphone connection for comments and questions, and a chat box for dialogue.
- + Recording of Class Sessions for later viewing will be provided by the Instructor.
- + Tutorials for Google Classroom will be provided upon request.

Technical Requirements include:

- + Browsers – Chrome 30 & later; Firefox 24 & later, Internet Explorer 9 & later
- + Operating Systems – Windows: Vista, Windows 7, 8 & later; MAC: 10.6 & later; Linux: Ubuntu 10x & 11x; Red Hat 5 & 6, Open SuSE 11.4, Fedora 15 & 16



The Atlantic District + LC-MS  
*Engaging the World with the Gospel of Hope*

## Lay Deacon Ministry of Word and Service & 2022-2023 Training Program



## What is the Lay Diaconate?

### The Diaconate in the Holy Scriptures

The diaconate is a group of people committed to service in and for the Church, a group which has its roots in the New Testament [see Philippians 1:1; I Timothy 3:8-13; Acts 6:1-6]. As the Church catholic has grown, so too, the diaconate has had a history of development and usage. The diaconate has had a variety of definitions over time and has included a broad range of people, privileges, and responsibilities all dealing with sharing the Word of God and service in the Lord's kingdom.

### Purpose of the Atlantic District Lay Diaconate

The Atlantic District Lay Deacons are trained laity who are granted the opportunity to work under the Office of the Public Ministry in service to the local church, her members and to the world through works of mercy and witness as directed. The purpose of the Atlantic District Lay Diaconate is to provide some basic and uniform standards for preparation, education, and accountability; to offer opportunities for continuing education, fellowship, and support; to encourage excellence in service; and to be a forum for mutual concerns and needs. The Atlantic District Lay Diaconate is standardized and exists exclusively within the Atlantic District.

### Members of the Atlantic District Lay Diaconate

Members of the Atlantic District Lay Diaconate are men and women selected and nominated by the local congregation and its pastor and approved by the Atlantic District Board of Directors to serve after the example of our Lord Jesus Christ by sharing the Word and doing acts of service. Members of the Atlantic District Lay Diaconate are those individuals who apply for membership, meet the requirements as set by the Atlantic District, and subscribe to these guidelines for service and supervision. An Atlantic District Lay Deacon's focus of work is in the local congregation and in the surrounding community through those congregations.

- From the [Guidelines for the Atlantic District Lay Deacons Program](#)

## Q & A

*Q: Have there been recent changes in the Lay Deacon Training Program?*

A: Yes. Since September 2018, the Atlantic District has assumed sole responsibility for the administration of the Lay Deacon Training Program. The manner of the Program remains through computer based distance learning, and remains offered to all participating ECCE Districts.

*Q: What benefit does distance learning provide?*

A: Participants can study when most convenient for them: simultaneously with the live session, or independently as their schedule dictates by reviewing the recorded class. Completion of the Atlantic District Lay Deacon Training Program will allow certified Atlantic District Lay Deacons to transfer their status, with some provisions, to other participating Districts.

*Q: In addition to the classes, are there other requirements for the Program?*

A: Applicants must complete the Registration Form, as well as provide a letter of support from their congregational Pastor, Parish Council and two additional individuals. During the length of the Program and immediately afterwards, each participant will engage in an internship, providing over the course of 200 hours for practical experience in several areas of service.

*Q: Are there opportunities to meet with other students?*

A: Each individual cohort is encouraged to meet and view the class together at a central location whenever possible. In addition, there are several opportunities for fellowship, including monthly Regional breakfasts and annual rallies, Regional Bible studies, and the annual Atlantic District Lay Deacon Retreat for all members and students, as well as guests.

*Q: How do I know if I should become an Atlantic district Lay Deacon?*

A: Begin with prayer. Then speak with your Pastor, share your desire to serve and your willingness to prepare through study and practical experience.

## 2022-2023 Class Schedule 2023-2024

### Cycle Two

- + Interpreting Scripture
- + Teaching the Faith
- + Sharing the Faith
- + Evangelism
- + Apologetics

Formerly History of the Church

### Cycle One

- + Christian Doctrine
- + Old Testament Studies
- + New Testament Studied
- + Theology of Worship
- + + Christian Care

***Each class is six weeks in length. Registered participants will receive a class schedule, syllabus and instructors' name, prior to the scheduled class.***

### Class Participation

All classes are on-line, using Google Classroom, an established Distance Education System. Classes may be viewed:

- + Live Session - Tuesdays, 6:30 – 9:30 PM
- + Individual study at home at your leisure via recorded sessions
- + Active, Certified Deacons may also audit the courses Continuing Education Credit. for the discounted fee of \$50. Other laity may also audit the Classes for \$100 Registration is required.

**Program Costs** - In addition to the varying cost of texts to be acquired by the student, Tuition for each course is \$200, payable either by credit card or personal check to the Atlantic District, and sent directly to the District Offices. Mark your check Lay Deacon Training Program.

**Scholarship Funds are available.** A rebate of \$50 will be granted to matriculated students upon successfully completing the course. Contact the Program Registrar for more information: [revalbrechtsen@outlook.com](mailto:revalbrechtsen@outlook.com) [not available for those auditing the courses]

**Registration** - Applications are available from the Registrar and Atlantic District Lay Deacon Program Coordinator, Rev Henry Albrechtsen. Please contact him for both registration and scholarship applications, as well as with any questions, at;

[revalbrechtsen@outlook.com](mailto:revalbrechtsen@outlook.com)

***All completed forms must be submitted to Rev Albrechtsen  
129 N Cross Road – Langrangeville, NY 12540.***