

Dear Church Family,

For the next two weeks, we are engaging in a very important process for our church – the annual nomination of Deacons and Church Council members. If you were present this past Sunday, hopefully you noticed that the ballots were distributed and will continue to be available for the next two Sundays (October 11 and October 18). I want to send a personal message to you this week, asking every member for your prayer and your participation.

As you may know, our Deacons are the <u>front line</u> of our pastoral care ministry. They coordinate care for folks who have a specific need or are in crisis. They also stay in touch with every family assigned to them several times a year. They are critical to the care of our body.

Church Council members join me in the key responsibilities of overseeing the mission and strategy of VRBC, guarding the unity of the church, addressing doctrine where needed, as well as overseeing the work of the Personnel, Finance and Ministry Placement committees. Spiritual discernment is vital as we seek to discern God's will for VRBC in this place and time.

Therefore I would like to personally ask you to:

- 1) PRAY intentionally for this process, that God would use it to raise up the leadership that is needed, and that those who are nominated will listen closely to the Spirit and have willing hearts to serve if they are called;
- 2) PARTICIPATE in the nomination process. Please fill out those nomination ballots! Your participation is vital to this process working well.

These are important and exciting days in the life of VRBC! Thanks in advance for your help.

In Christ.

Larry Parsley
VRBC Senior Pastor