

DEACON TO ELDER ORDINATION PROCESS

1. An ordained deacon acknowledges a call to the preaching ministry. (*Manual* 532-532.1)
2. The ordained deacon contacts the district superintendent to communicate the new information, and to determine the necessary steps to fulfill the requirements needed with the process to move toward ordination as an elder. (*Manual* 531.4; 532.3)
3. The ordained deacon completes the requirements for ordination as an elder, and requests that the appropriate district board consider granting him or her the ordination elder credential status.
4. The applicable district board evaluates the ordained deacon who has requested to be considered as a candidate for an ordained elder, and, if favorable, the district board recommends the ordained deacon for the ordained elder credential status to the next district assembly.
5. The district assembly approves the recommendation for the ordained deacon to be granted the ordained elder status.
6. The ordained deacon transition to ordained elder status is acknowledged in the ordination service at the district assembly, with a prayer and blessing by the jurisdictional general superintendent, but the ordinand is not re-ordained. (Ruling from the Board of General Superintendents, July 7, 2006)
7. The credential order form should be submitted to the General Secretary's office, along with a note that indicates this will be an exchange of deacon's orders for elder's orders.
8. The ordinand is issued a new ordination elder certificate at the district assembly.
9. Based on the action by the district assembly, the minister's name is deleted from the roll of ordained deacons and added to the roll of ordained elders in the district journal with the year of the ordination as an elder. This action should be identified in the appropriate district board report, as well as in the General Information section of the journal.
10. The newly ordained elder returns the ordination deacon certificate to the General Secretary's office via the district secretary. (*Manual* 531.4)
11. The credential history section of the ordained minister's profile will include the date/information for both ordinations.