

AWCC FOST FAQ

Q: Why are we considering a governance change?

Our current leadership model of the Council of Deacons:

- *tends to overwork the deacons as they serve on the council and lead ministry teams*
- *often has unfilled deacon positions*
- *limits deacon function primarily to management of ministry*

We need a governance structure where the primary responsibilities of the leadership are spiritual discernment, strategic planning, evaluation, and vision building.

Q: What are the functional differences between the Council Model and Leadership Team Model?

- *The Council consists of 10 elected people whose primary focus is church and ministry management.*
- *The Leadership Team consists of 5-7 elected people whose primary focus is the spiritual vitality of the church and ministry freedom. Management of the church would then be accomplished through ministry teams under their authority.*

Q: Would this change the authority structure of AWCC?

No. Because AWCC is a Covenant church it must always be congregational. The congregation is the final source of authority. The Leadership Team would be accountable to the congregation in the same way that the Council of Deacons is now.

Q: So, how would the Leadership Team actually lead the church?

The Leadership Team would oversee and empower Ministry Teams to manage AWCC and its ministries as God leads. Because the Ministry Team leaders would not be members of the Leadership Team they would be free to focus completely upon their area of ministry. The Leadership Team, freed of actual ministry responsibility, would have time to dream, pray, strategize, and encourage the ministry teams.

Q: How will members of the Leadership Team be elected to the position?

In much the same way that deacons are now elected to their position, Leadership Team members would be nominated, based upon desire, gifts and abilities as well as biblical leadership standards. The congregation would then have the opportunity to discuss and vote. Leadership Team members would be subject to term limits in the same way Deacons are now.