

# PASTOR'S NICKEL

## Pastor's Nickel – Deacons



*Pastor's Nickel*

One of the strongest misconceptions I have seen in the CRC over the years is what many think is a hierarchy of authority in Council which places the Pastor at the top, under the Pastor was the Elders and under the Elders was the Deacons.

The fact of the matter is that all ordained officebearers are “equal in authority but distinct with respect to task.” That is why I was so pleased when our denomination’s general meeting (Synod) aligned our practice with our theology and mandated that deacons need to be delegated as equal members to our regional and denominational governing bodies (Classis and Synod). Here at Covenant we are privileged to have Deacons who are visionary, innovative, humble, caring, and wise. I value their leadership at Council and various ministry teams as they lead us in our stewardship, our community engagement and in compassion. Too often, though, we are not aware of all that they do and we end up assuming that the limit of their task is taking up the offering in each worship service. That is unfortunate because, to me, our Deacons are key to the full functioning of the church in all our work. *That’s my nickel. Pastor Bob*