



Diaconal  
Ministries  
Canada

## Mini Workshop

### **Be a Participant with Partners** **Diakonia in the life of your church September 2009**

Biblically, *diakonia* is defined as “care and service” for others. For this reason, *diakonia* is not limited to tasks within the church that are commonly associated with charity and its administration. Christians are to care and serve those around us – in the church and in the community. Since *diakonia* is relationship-building, it applies to all followers of Christ.

Let the following exercise be the catalyst for your diaconate to understand how the broader definition of *diakonia* might be applied to your church and the way you serve the Lord by serving each other and your neighbours!

1. **Consider** how diaconal ministry or *diakonia* happens in your church. Name ministries that are happening and relationships that have been built through these ministries. Identify a way(s) to get more people from your congregation participating in *diakonia*. (10 min)
2. Read the article “Bringing New Life to the Diaconate” (from the September 2009 issue of *Partners*). Divide into groups (if necessary) so that all might participate. **Discuss** how you might bring new energy and focus into your diaconate this season. (10 min)
3. As an entire group, **resolve** to implement (at least) one idea suggested in your conversation regarding #2. Also contact your local Diaconal Ministry Developer (DMD) for assistance in setting goals for *diakonia* (the name and contact information of the DMD in your classis is listed at <http://www.diaconalministries.com/aboutus/dmd.htm>). Invite your DMD to attend one of your regular meetings for their encouragement and support. (10 min)

#### ***Continue to develop your passion for and skills in diaconal ministry:***

- A.** Visit our website [www.diaconalministries.com](http://www.diaconalministries.com) for many, varied resources to be equipped in diaconal ministry.
- B.** For more resources on ways to involve your church members in ministry, check our denomination’s resources from Faith Alive at [www.faithaliveresources.org](http://www.faithaliveresources.org).
- C.** Contact the Diaconal Ministry Developer in your classis to serve and support your church’s diaconal ministry. Enjoy various workshops to become equipped in ministry.

Diaconal Ministries Canada is **your** resource!

**Call us at 1-800-730-3490 or email at [info@diaconalministries.com](mailto:info@diaconalministries.com).**

**[www.diaconalministries.com](http://www.diaconalministries.com)**