



Deacon Valerie Thornhill-Hudson (Deacon Val)

Deacon Val serves as the Chair of the COLCF Diaconate Ministry, and is a member of the Church Council. She began attending COLCF in 2015. In 2017, Pastor Price presented her with an invitation to serve as a Deacon on the newly established Diaconate Ministry and was Ordained on April 29, 2018. Shortly thereafter, Deacon Val was voted in as the Chair of the Diaconate Ministry. Deacon Val finds it very humbling to serve the people of God and will be forever grateful to Pastor Price for recognizing something in her that she did not see.

This calling has deepened Deacon Val's faith in the Lord, in his Word, and in the power of prayer. It is an honor and a privilege to serve the people, and Deacon Val is very grateful for the opportunities presented on a daily basis to do so.

Deacon Val was born in Detroit, Michigan and relocated to Boston, Massachusetts in the early 60's. She also attended Myrtle Baptist Church in Newton with her late husband and three children for over 25 years.

Deacon Val is currently employed at Roxbury Community College, serving as the Executive Administrator/Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board of Trustees. She truly believes that God has always put her in environments such as higher education, the criminal justice system, and health care, surrounding her with people who would benefit the most from her ministry.

Deacon Val graduated from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in May 2023 and has a Master of Arts in Urban Ministry Leadership. She lives in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, and has two daughters, Jamila and Ayanna Ede; a son, Bashir; and one grandchild, Kaya.

Deacon Val's favorite Scripture is from *Acts Chapter 6:1-7*; Deacons have been called to serve the people. Whenever she finds herself overwhelmed with the needs of people, this scripture always reminds her that serving the people is the calling that she accepted from God. Her favorite song is *Step Aside*; sung by Yolanda Adams. None of what we are experiencing in life is a surprise to God.

To God be the Glory for all he has done, is doing now, and thanking him in advance for what he will do in the future. Deacon Val can be contacted email at: valeriethudson@gmail.com.