

Acts 6 Ministry Special Talent Volunteer or Associate Volunteer

Personal Commitment Letter of Understanding

An Acts 6 **Special Talent Volunteer (STV)** is an individual who desires to use their skills/expertise to provide service(s) to others through the Acts 6 Ministry. An Acts 6 **Associate Volunteer (AV)** is an individual who chooses to simply accompany a Special Talent Volunteer (STV) on projects as a helper particularly in situations where a male STV is serving a widow alone.

As an Acts 6 Special Talent Volunteer (STV) or Associate Volunteer (AV), I subscribe to the “Guiding Scripture” of our ministry: James 1:27 *“Pure and undefiled religion before our God and Father is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unstained by the world.”*

The Acts 6 Ministry STVs/AVs are committed to responding to the widow’s request for help, to avoid distress, due to household or vehicle issues. Widows find such tangible help to be a tremendous blessing and very supportive of the Acts 6 Ministry goal to help widows live-out their spiritual ministry with as much peace and comfort as possible; and secondly to be a Christian witness to her family and friends.

I understand and commit to responsibly build and maintain trust with the widow to which I am connected. This trust extends to her personal safety as well as her property. My commitment is that our ministry service motives will always be entirely based without compromise, on the widow’s spiritual, mental, and physical well-being.

The STV/AV services will generally be coordinated by the Acts 6 Ministry Team member through the Deacon leader assigned to the team. Most service requests are repairs to home, property or vehicle. Most are routine, but others may require creative solutions. Some minor improvement work may be doable also—handrail or grab bar installation are examples. Sometimes good advice is the best that can be done. The cost of materials should be covered by the widow whenever possible, but when that is not possible the Acts 6 deacon will work with the widow to request financial help from the Acts 6 Benevolence Fund managed through Care Ministry.. This is an Acts 6 designated benevolence fund which is separate from The Shepherd's Church general benevolence fund. STVs/AVs are not responsible for project funding. The widow may; however, ask the STV to supply the materials necessary that are reimbursed by the widow.

I recognize that my primary ministry responsibility is to the widow and will take the appropriate time to minister in other ways, including praying with her. I understand family or friends may be present and witnessing my faith and ministry. I expect the widow to be satisfied when I leave and will provide a way to contact me or the ministry if the unexpected occurs. I may call back to check up later.

I will not send anyone outside the Acts 6 ministry to the widow's home to work without my presence. I may recommend a business and provide help in explaining the job, but the actual contracting of the job should be done by the person expected to make payment.

I understand that to be a STV/AV within the Acts 6 Ministry requires being at least 21 years of age and 18 years of age to be an AV.

I accept the responsibility to maintain my spiritual, church family, and community standing, consistent with these requirements and values to be an Acts 6 STV/AV.

Acts 6 Ministry Liability Waiver

In consenting to this (this "Liability Waiver"), I agree not to hold The Shepherd's Church, its officers, employees, or other agents liable for any injury, loss, damage, or accident that I might encounter while engaged in The Shepherd's Church Acts 6 Ministry program.

I realize and acknowledge that my participation in the Acts 6 Ministry includes some risks and possible dangers. I hereby assume any such risks that might result from my participation, and I unconditionally agree to hold The Shepherd's Church, its officers, employees, or other agents blameless for any liability concerning my personal health and well-being, or any liability for my personal property that might be lost, damaged, or stolen while participating in the Acts 6 Ministry.

I have carefully read the foregoing and I understand that by checking the below box I herein hold The Shepherd's Church, its officers, employees, or other agents harmless for any liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or irregularity in schedule.

I am eighteen (18) years of age or older, or the parent/guardian of the participant if under eighteen years of age, and this Liability Waiver is binding on me and my executor, administrators, and heirs.

The parties to this Liability Waiver are Christians and believe that the Bible commands them to make every effort to live at peace and to resolve disputes with each other in private or within the Christian church (see Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 6:1-8). Therefore, the parties agree that any claim or dispute arising from or related to this Liability Waiver shall be settled by biblically based mediation and, if necessary, legally binding arbitration in accordance with the Rules of Procedure for Christian Conciliation of the Institute for Christian Conciliation. All such mediation and arbitration shall take place in Cary or Raleigh, North Carolina. Judgment upon an arbitration award may be entered in any court otherwise having jurisdiction. The parties understand that these methods shall be the sole remedy for any controversy or claim arising out of this Liability Waiver and expressly waive their right to file a lawsuit in any civil court against one another for such disputes, except to enforce an arbitration decision.

I have read the Acts 6 STV/AV Commitment Letter as well as the Liability Statement and agree with each of the statements. (Please check the box to the left)