

The Mission of Elder Ministry (Example)

WHO WE ARE:

We, the Elders, the Spiritual Servant Leaders of St. ??? Lutheran Church, serve as an extension of the pastoral ministry and exist to support the spiritual growth of the congregation.

We submit and conform ourselves to the biblical qualifications and characteristics of elders and spiritual leaders described in such passages as: 1 Timothy 3:1-13; 4:7-16; 5:17-22; 6:11-21; 2 Timothy 2:22-26; Titus 1:5-9; 2:1-2, 6-8; Acts 6:1-7 & 20:13-38; 1 Peter 5:1-11; Mark 10:42-45; John 13:12-17; James 1:22-27 & 5:13-20; 3 John 11.

WHAT WE DO:

As St. Paul's Spiritual Servant Leaders we...

1. Are in regular attendance in corporate Bible study and worship.
2. Are faithful in personal Bible study and regular in prayer for the congregation and its members (described by Paul in 1 Timothy 2:1).
3. Support the authority of the Office of Pastoral Ministry, especially the teaching and preaching of the Word of God as drawn from the canonical Scriptures, the administering of sacraments, & congregational care and discipline (cf. James 3:1-2).
4. Insure the true Word of God is preached and taught at St. ???.
5. Support the overall spiritual growth of St. ??? by actively engaging the individual members in our elder care groups.
6. Visit and care for the sick, shut-in, and hospitalized and seek to better educate ourselves on how to do this.
7. Ensure that the passion of St. ??? is Christ-centered.
8. Shall be the spiritual leaders and role models of the Church and to be her servants.

In worship service we...

1. Are available to preach should no pastor be available.
2. Provide acolyte service as needed.
3. Provide liturgy assistance as needed.
4. Conduct Old Testament and Epistle readings as needed.
5. Assist the Pastors in the sacraments (communion & baptism).
6. Are informal greeters before and after each service and assist ushers as needed.
7. Visit with guests and visitors as needed prior to them partaking in the Lord's Supper.
8. Provide basic church information to visitors and are available for prayers following each service.

In addition we...

1. Shepherd (attend) new member classes or teach select new member classes—becoming a familiar face to new members
2. Support and assist all ministries as needed.
3. Provide monies for special need (Elder budget).
4. Assist the pastors in reviewing educational material.
5. Monitor sermons.
6. Support, pray for, and encourage the pastor/s and his family.